THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

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Summary of News.

Monday, 9th November.

THE Madras Budget Estimates for 1892-93 have just been issued. Among other noticeable features they provide for the salary of an additional Under-Secretary to Government in the Chief Secretariat at Rs. 1,200 monthly. As a set-off against this additional expenditure credit is taken for a saving of Rs. 500 monthly in the salary of the Military Secretary, who will draw Rs. 2,000 instead of Rs. 2,500 drawn by his predecessor. The Director of Public Instruction estimates the total charges for education in the Madras Presidency for next year at seventeen and-a half lakhs of rupees, which the Government has reduced by one lakh.

A BERLIN Bank, of which the depositors consist chiefly of the middle and artisan classes, has become involved owing to the recent failure of Herschfield's Bank. Two of the partners have committed suicide. On the news of the Bank's difficulties becoming known, a crowd besieged the door clamouring for the return of their deposits.

IT is reported that the construction of the Benares Water-works is making good progress, and pipelaying has been begun. It is also contemplated to declare the Provincial Water-works Act I. of 1891 in force in the Municipality almost immediately.

THE Ward's Institute at Agra has been closed from the 1st instant by the orders of the Government of the North-West Provinces and Oudh.

PRIVATE James Whitely, of the South Wales Borderers, who was charged with causing grievous hurt to one Somai Lall by shooting him at Ghanani, in the Rewah territory, on June 25th last, was tried at the Criminal Sessions of the Allahabad High Court, and acquitted by Justice Knox, the jury having been divided, six being for acquittal and three for conviction.

THE increase in the gross receipts of Indian Railways, compared with those of last year have now topped two crores for the Guaranteed and State lines alone. The total increase on all railways, including those in the Native States, for the seven months ending October 24th, is a little over Rs. 2,12,00,00.

PRINCE Damrong of Siam was on Monday received in audience by the Emperor William. The Prince presented to his Majesty a letter from the King of Siam, and was afterwards entertained at a banquet at the Palace.

THERE appears, according to the published returns to have been a very marked increase in the number of dacoities reported in Rajputana last year—93 as compared with 65 in 1889. The value of the property plundered was more than twice that of the previous year; while, in the opinion of the Assistant General Superintendent of the cases which occurred in Meywar, the most troublesome district, only a small proportion appear in the returns furnished by the Durbar. In the course of a tour at the beginning of the year, the officer in question heard of at least 15 cases which do not appear in the official reports.

RETURNS of the trade of British India with foreign countries show a marked decrease in imports together with a yet more noteworthy increase in exports during the first six months of the current year, as compared with the same period of 1890. In round numbers the import trade fell from 33½ to 31½ crores, while exports rose from 46½ to nearly 52 crores. In imports the most noticeable falling off occurred in yarns and textile fabrics—nearly 1½ crores, while the increase in exports was mainly due to "articles of food and drink," *viz.*, wheat—6 crores.

IN a speech delivered at Milan the Premier, the Marquis di Rudini, declared that Italy was devoted to peace, and the alliances she had entered into were purely of a defensive character. The recent incident in the Pantheon was, he said, too trifling to make Italy tamper with the law of Papal guarantees, and Catholic pilgrims of the whole world were welcome to Rome.

Tuesday, 10th November.

SIR James Fergusson, Postmaster-General, has ordered the preferential employment of men of the Army Reserve as rural and provincial postmen. This will ultimately give employment to sixteen thousand men.

THE *Times of India* strongly supports the appointment of the Duke of Connaught to the post of Commander-in-Chief.—"Another name that has been brought into the discussion," it says in the course of an article, "and one far more likely to be the right one is that of Lieutenant-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, and a better appointment at this particular juncture it would be difficult to conceive. At a time when efforts are being made to amalgamate Presidential armies and when one Staff Corps list contains the names of all officers whose promotion and advancement to the Staff and selection for appointments will more than ever be in the hands of the Commander-in-Chief in India, no one could be better qualified to fulfil this high position of trust than a son of Her Imperial Majesty. On the one hand, he is above all party-feeling and Presidential cliques; and on the other, he has strong individual claims in his special training, having commanded a division in Bengal, as well as the Bombay Army. Look at the special training he has undergone in the various branches of his profession, which has rendered him acquainted with the details of artillery, cavalry and infantry, where other Generals have only graduated in one branch."

THE Calcutta Municipality covers an area of nearly twelve thousand acres or, eighteen and one half square miles which is the equivalent of a block 4.3 miles square. There are nearly twice as many males as females within the city limits; the birth-rate is 17 per thousand and the death-rate for the past five years is 25 per thousand. There are 197 miles of sewer pipes, 281 miles of water pipes connected with the filtered system and 66 miles for the unfiltered system. There are 96 miles of stone metalled roads, 152 miles of brick metalled roads and 29 miles of *kacha* roads, making a total of 277 miles of streets within the limits of the Municipality.

AN interesting telephoning experiment has been made in Melbourne, when the Postmaster-General of Victoria and South Australia, with their principal executive officers, succeeded in establishing conversation between Melbourne and Adelaide, a distance of 500 miles. The Governments of the two colonies have just completed the suspension of a copper wire (known technically as a "number twelve," and rather more than an eighth of an inch in thickness), which is to be used for the new quadruplex telegraphic instrument; and the idea suggested itself of seeing what could be done with the telephone over the wire. For over an hour an animated conversation was carried on, and the chimes of the Adelaide post-office clock were distinctly heard in Melbourne and *vice versa*. The instruments used at Melbourne were the Hunning, Berthon, Berliner and Blaske, and the two former were found most effective.

THE Nizam's Government has informed the local Agent and Manager of the Deccan Mining Company, that it cannot accede to his request to extend its existing prospecting lease, which terminates at the end of the current year. There will be upwards of 1,000 square miles of land to lease out for prospecting purposes. On this being placed on the market, the tenders of all parties for prospecting leases will be fully considered on their merits.

WE are all more or less acquainted with the tides of the sea, but meteorologists have shown us that there are also tides of a somewhat similar nature in the atmosphere. They are of two kinds, the first being due to heating by the sun's rays, and the second to the attraction of the moon. Air by heating expands and consequently rises, and that there is a periodical daily rise and fall of the air, due to variation in the amount of heat, is clearly proved by the barometer. Twice a day in the tropics the barometer indicates the highest pressure or flow of the tide, at 9 or 9½ A.M. and at 10 or 10½ P.M. and twice a day the lowest, at 4 or 4½ P.M. and 4 A. M., or at nearly the hottest and coldest hours of the day. So regular is this phenomenon in the torrid zone that the hour may almost be told by looking at the column of mercury instead of the clock.

Wednesday, 11th November.

THE following are the details of the strength of the columns to operate in Upper Burma. Five columns comprising 400 British and 1,000 Native Infantry, 500 Pioneers and one Mountain Battery against the Chins. Four columns consisting of 275 British and 425 Native Infantry, 80 Mounted Infantry, six Mountain guns. In the region about Bhamo and Mogoung, six other columns aggregating 565 Rifles formed from among the Military police will take the field chiefly in Kathar and Wuntho. The total strength of the regular troops and police to be engaged in the work of the exploration and pacification of Upper Burmah frontiers will thus be four thousand.

SIR Lepel Griffin means to enter the Parliament In the next election he will stand for a conservative borough. In a letter to the *Times* Sir Lepel Griffin forms the following estimate of the Grand Old Man:—

"When feeding time at the Zoological Gardens approaches, the wild beasts begin to show signs of anxiety. In the same manner, as the date of general election draws near, and there seems a possibility of the return of Mr. Gladstone to power, all the enemies of England begin to wake and stir themselves. From the banks of the Nile to the snowy gates of the Pamir we can hear whispers of conspirators and the hum of preperation. The time, they believe, is coming when they may again plunder and insult England with impunity. In their happy dreams they see the restoration of the Grand Old Weathercock who has been consistent in nothing but in betraying the interests of his country. In what quarter of the world has he not abandoned the rights and claims of England, and covered Englishmen with shame and confusion? In what gutter has he not trailed the national flag?..... Sir William Harcourt has been abusing Mr. Diccy for suggesting that Mr. Gladstone is not immortal. But surely, we, who are not fetich worshippers, and who stand outside the circle dominated by the great medicine-man, may suggest that no disagreeable things last for ever. Life would otherwise be intolerable. Epidemics and disasters, the cholera, the influenza, even Sir William Harcourt himself, are only temporary calamities, and the time must come when the political sky will clear."

MR. Digby is very strongly in favor of the London Session of the Indian National Congress. He will have the Congress in London even at the sacrifice of the Nagpur Session. Writing to the *Hindu* on the subject he says:—

"Just as I am closing, Mr. Caine, fresh from his successful tour in Scotland, gives me a call. He tells me he has addressed more than ten thousand people in half a dozen towns during the week. The interest excited in all, he said, about India has greatly encouraged and gratified him. So much indeed is this the case that he is more than half inclined now to argue and to urge that the Congress should assemble here next year, even if to achieve this end the Nagpur gathering had to be given up."..... All the probabilities (in England) point to a stormy period, and a dissolution (next autumn) determined upon by the Premier, because he finds it impossible any longer to carry on. That contingency, too, points to a General Election as the very time which makes a Congress session in England possible, and therefore, imperative. I, for one, hope the British Committee will see fit to reconsider their suggestion, and make another and better one—namely, suggest that the Congress supporters strain every nerve and come. So strongly do I, for my own part, think it imperative that there should be no doubt or hesitation on this point, that I would counsel the abandonment of the proposed Congress at Nagpore and the reservation of all strength and funds for a visit to England. That is, of course, only if the two sessions within a few months of each other, are not feasible. They ought both to be held; but if a sacrifice is necessary, Nagpore and not London ought to be sacrificed."

MRS. BRADLAUGH-BONNER was, on October 13, presented with an elaborately-carved casket of Oriental workmanship containing an album of Indian photographs and an illuminated copy of the address given to her father on the occasion of his visit to Bombay. The presentation was made by Sir William Wedderburn at the London office of the Indian National Congress, in the presence of a number of gentlemen interested in the Indian political movement. Sir William Wedderburn, in the course of his remarks, referred to the value of Mr. Bradlaugh's services to India, and to the loss suffered through his lamented death. Short addresses were also delivered by Mr. C. Schwann, M.P., Mr. A. O. Hume, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, and others. The gift was accepted by Mrs. Bonner in a few well-chosen words.

Thursday, 12th November.

THE *Morning Post* has changed hands; the Railway Press Company having been declared insolvent the whole plant with the good will of the paper has been purchased by certain partners of the Old Company. Let us see if there will be a change in the policy of the paper too.

A NEW Steam Roller for the Municipality is to be procured from England immediately at a cost of Rs. 6,475; the sanction accorded to the purchase provides that it shall be furnished with an effective smoke-consuming apparatus.

THE Boy Editor of *the Sunny Hour* has been ordered away from New York by his doctors. They say he has overworked himself. As he is only fourteen and has successfully conducted his little monthly paper for two years, this is not surprising. Kings, queens, princes, and famous men are his contributors. He writes and asks, and they readily respond. Carmen Sylva sent him two poems. Osman Pacha sent a short article. Those who did not contribute to the paper wrote kind notes and, in some instances, enclosed their photographs. The editorial den of this remarkable boy is full of such trophies of his address. Most of the best known American Generals have responded to his request for articles. The social leaders of New York have made a pet of him, and asked him to their reception, where he was lionised. This was bad for him, and the constant excitement has impaired his vitality. He is to spend three days in New York every month, to get his paper ready for the press. All the profit go to a fund for buying shoes for poor boys. The name of this clever and philanthropic young man is Tolle D'Apery.

THE personal reminiscences of Mr. Parnell become more and more interesting, and it is surprising, considering his exclusive habits, what a great deal those who knew him have to tell. That he had a kind, as well as an austere, side to his character seems now to be placed beyond doubt; but reading between the lines we discover that when it exhibited itself it was a patronising kindness, and that he never permitted any of those who were associated with him in political work to forget that he was their master and dictator. He could, it is said, be gentle or brusque with equal readiness, and it is related of him that on one occasion, while engaged in genial conversation in the Lobby, he broke off to censure a delinquent Nationalist who had failed to put in an appearance in an important division. He listened to the proffered excuses and then burst out, "it was your duty to have known, you ass, you ought to have been there; never let it occur again." The circumstances, too, under which he was brough: round to countenance the Land League are well told. Michael Davitt and John Dillon called upon him. For hours they talked to him, while he sat silent and unresponsive, smoking his choice cigars. Alternately and together they expended their energy and eloquence, in order to convince him that the movement was one with which he ought to prominently identify himself, and at last, tired out, they sank back in silence. Mr. Parnell then for the first time gave token of interest, and settled the business by laconically remarking, "I don't know what you fellows are quite after with me, but anyhow, I'll do it." This is the manner in which the Land League is alleged to have been officially adopted as part of the Nationalist programme, and the writer adds: "In those days he was cautious to the verge of suspicion with regard to both men, but later, when he knew them better, trusted them as they deserved."

THE Czar has one of the cheapest armies the world has ever seen. The yearly pay actually drawn by privates in the ranks is 2 roubles, 7 rcopecks, or about 6 shillings yearly, paid to him in the shape of a shilling every two months. His ation is an 8lb loaf of black rye-bread every third day, which is made by the regimental bakers, and Government further provides him daily with ½lb. of meat, meal for porridge, salt and vegetables. As to the Russian soldier's meals, we read that no fixed breakfast is provided: the soldier makes the best of his grey-bread, brews his own tea or buys a cup in the canteen. At eleven a dinner is supplied consisting of *stchi*—an excellent vegetable and meat soup—and porridge. At seven each man is served out with gruel. A drink called *kvas*, a non-intoxicant, brewed from corn, is supplied *ad libitun* at both these meals. The men while in camp are kept in splendid training on these short rations, for such they would seem to even the frugal Indian sepoy: three hours drill in the morning and two more in the afternoon are of common occurrence, though the camps are mostly intended for practical exercises in musketry. With these figures before us, and with the knowledge that the commission ranks are worse paid than the native officars of the Indian army, it is easy to understand how Russia can keep up an army of 300,000 men even in peace time.

Friday, 13th November.

IT is no secret at Balmoral that Her Majesty has so benefited by her sojourn there that she would willingly extend her visit. However, that is now impossible. She has arranged for a visit from the Empress Frederick and her daughter at the beginning of December, and so it will be necessary for her to proceed to Windsor towards the end of November. Her Majesty has again recovered the bright spirits which she lost on receiving the news of Mr. Smith's death. It will be futile to say that Mr. Smith had that charm of disposition and manner which helped to make Lord Beaconsfield so great a favourite with Her Majesty, but his solid character, his frankness, his transparent honesty, his unselfish loyalty were keenly appreciated by his Sovereign. This is strikingly evidenced in the letter which Mrs. Smith has received from Her Majesty. It is a letter full of a sympathetic woman's deep sorrow at an affliction whose intensity she herself only too well understands. It reflects the Sovereign's gratitude at having been served by so faithful a subject and so good a man.

MOST of the papers lay stress on the circumstance that Mr. W. H. Smith rose from the lowliest position. The *Telegraph* says of him that by his ample and admirable success he raised to national honour, as never before, those substantial virtues of the bourgeoise which are the backbone of a land; and the *Morning Advertiser* remarks that he was emphatically the Minister of the middle classes, a representative of those qualities of caution, prudence, and foresight for which the average Englishman, rightly or wrongly, claims special credit. The *Times* sees in this a sign of the times. Conservatism in England, it says, was wont to be aristocratic, and bound up with the fortunes of the great landed class. The Tories of fifty years ago disliked Peel; their successors hated Disraeli, though they were obliged to follow him; and in both cases the origin of the feeling was that the leader was a man who did not belong to the old aristocratic English caste. The modern spirit and the Act of 1867 have changed all that; and our age has seen the Conservative party in the House, and the House itself, following, not only without repugnance, but with positive affection, a simple man of business without any pretensions to "family." The *Daily News* does not doubt that some of the aristocratic members of his party were inclined to look down upon him for a long time because his wealth had come from trade, and theirs, when they had it, must no doubt have fallen direct from the heavens. But of late years we presume that these prejudices must have given way, and that the quiet, solid, steady worth of the man had proved itself and found acceptance.

WHILE Russia is distracting British attention by a display of aggressiveness in the Pamirs, she is (says the *Globe*) pressing forward steadily in quite another and far more important direction. Prince Kouropatkin, the successor of General Komaroff in the Transcaspian Government, has set himself to complete the work initiated by his predecessor. Two military roads from the Russian province now converge on Herat, the one starting from the Heri-Rud the other from the Kushk. By means of these highways, a considerable force might be quickly pushed forward to Herat, and that this is their prime purpose admits of very little doubt. Indeed, Prince Kouropatkin almost makes public proclamation to that effect; he has named the place where the two roads join "Klooch," which being interpreted means "The Key." The key of what? Of Herat, of course—of the outer gate of Hindustan. With a strong, well-equipped force at Klooch, and a venal governor in command of the famous frontier fortress Russia might make herself mistress of Herat by a *coup de main*. That was how she managed to capture Kars, and once in her possession, she took good care not to relinquish the invaluable prize. Apart from treachery, Herat has been made sufficiently strong to defy a sudden swoop of that sort; its principal fortifications are now in good condition and heavily armed, so that an enemy would require a siege train to force entrance. But intrigue and bribery might accomplish what force could not; if for instance, such an ambitious and unscrupulous man as Isaak Khan were in command of the fortress, the Czar would not find much difficulty in inducing him to change sides. Nor is there any way of guarding against this danger, the most we can do is to strengthen the next gate, Candahar. It is a long march from Herat to that fair city, and before the Russians arrived at the Hul-mund, there be should superior force blocking the way to India. The Sibi railway requires, however, to be continued to Candahar; if the Ameer consented to the supply of this "missing link," he would not have so much need to be anxious about the loyalty of his representative at Herat.

A NEW religious movement has begun among the villagers in Western Rajputana. Following the teachings, of one Rajia, they have joined one of the Hindu sects, and pledged themselves to abstain from flesh, liquor and thieving.

Saturday, 14th November.

TWO cases of human skin shedding are reported from the United States. According to a paper by Dr. J. Frank, recently read before the Chicago Medical Society, one of the subjects is a man who has obtained a new skin every year of his life. The shedding occurs in July, and is accompanied by feverish tremours which last for twelve hours. The old skin turns red and peels off, leaving a soft rosy skin underneath, which is so tender at first that he is obliged to wear soft gloves and mocassins for a week. The other case is that of a lady, 39 years old, who ever since 1876 has renewed her epidermis every second or third year.

THE *Pioneer* writes:—'The frequent excursions of Messrs Walsh and Martin to the city and surrounding country, during their two months' stay at Cabool, seemed to excite no more than such ordinary curiosity as would be evinced in any Indian frontier bazar. The Amir frequently emphasised his desire that his people should be brought into closer commercial relationship with the people of India, and expressed his regret that former rulers of Afghanistan had been insensible of the advantages to be gained therefrom. He told a deputation that he feared the feelings of true friendship and great good will which he entertained towards the English were only partially recognised, but he hoped that a better understanding would be brought about as trade between the two countries developed. The Amir expressed himself well satisfied with the machinery supplied for his workshop, and with the admirable manner in which the European employes had set it up. His Highness was fully impressed with the civilising effect of industry: and he expected great things in the near future as the reward of his liberal initial outlay. It may here be mentioned that minting, cartridge-making cannon-founding and barrel-rifling machinery are in full swing: and there are also machines for making boots, weaving, saw-mills, and flour mills affording altogether employment for some half-dozen Europeans and from 1,200 to 1,300 workmen of whom about fifty are natives of India.'

SIR RICHARD Temple's intentions have been somewhat misapprehended. It has, for instance, been imagined, states an English paper, that the genial member for South Worcestershire has definitely resolved to withdraw from parliamentary life. Recently an educational organisation wrote to Sir Richard—and it is in connection with educational work that he would be particularly missed—expressing regret at what it understood to be his resolve to sever his connection with St. Stephens. Sir Richard has assured the organisation that it is labouring under a mistake. His retirement is only from his candidature in South Worcestershire, and not from political and parliamentary life.

A GENIUS at Mahlenberg, Pa, has completed a marvellous clock for exhibition at the Chicago Fair. Around the dial is a railway track on which a miniature locomotive makes the round every five minutes. It requires a magnifying glass to see the delicate machinery. The oil cups at the journals are so small that nothing larger than a hair can be inserted. There is a headlight and bell, flag holders on the pilot, whistle, and every thing connected with a locomotive. It has a link motion under the engine to reverse it. The weigh of the locomotive is 1¼ pounds and it has been named—'The Gem'

THE *St. James Gazette* publishes a report of an interview with a gentleman, whose name is not given, who has just returned from Central Asia. He is quite certain that the Russian officer, Captain Panoff (*sic*), who arrested Captain Younghusband, acted with the full knowledge of the Governor-General of Turkistan, and it is also clear that the Russian Government has no desire to keep the matter secret. Russia, he considers, is making a bold attempt to come closer to the Indian frontier. It is announced that the Amir of Bokhara and the envoys from Afghanistan, who have been sent to conclude a commercial treaty with Russia, will be received in audience by the Czar at Gatschina about the middle of December.

INDIAN child-wives and child-widows are promised a strange champion in the person of an Australian clergyman of the name of M. A. Longhurst. He has appealed to the Australian public for funds to enbable him to come out to India for the purpose of ameliorating their condition. For the present he wants £5,000. He is also sanguine of enlisting the sympathy of Scotch ladies in his cause, trom whom he expects substantial pecuniary aid in starting him in the work with a fair chance of success. He hopes to commence his work in India next month.

THE Peshwar district is shortly to come under resettlement. The Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, accompanied by Mr. Merk, Deputy Commissioner, is now touring through the district to arrange matters.

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THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET.)

(SESSION 1891-92.)

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S. on *Monday* the *16th November*, at 4-15 P. M.
Subject: Copper and Lead.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S on *Tuesday*, the *17th Nov.*, at 4-15 P. M.

Subject: Organic Chemistry: Introductory.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C., S. on *Wednesday*, the *18th Nov.* at 4-15 P. M.
Subject: Silver and Mercury.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Thursday*, the *19th Nov.*, at 4-15 P. M.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Saturday* the *21st Nov.*, at 3 P. M.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chundra Datta, F. C. S. on *Saturday*, the *21st Nov.*, at 4 P. M.

Subject: Paraffin Series—Methyl Hydride.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
November 14th, 1891. *Honorary Secretary.*

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1891.

THE BEHAR CADASTRAL SURVEY.

THE landholders of Bengal have been greatly alarmed by vague and contradictory reports touching the objects and intentions of Government in regard to the proposed Cadastral Survey. We are glad that the Government of Bengal has recorded a careful Resolution on the subject. It will clearly show the intentions of Government, and the land-owning classes will know exactly what position they should take in dealing with this important question.

The Bengal Tenancy Act (Sec. 101) provided that the Local Government may in any case with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council make an order directing that a Survey be made, and a record of rights be prepared, in respect of the lands in a local area by a Revenue-officer. Soon after the Tenancy Act came into force a proposition was made for the survey of the Mozufferpur district as an experimental measure. Referring to this proposition the Secretary of State observed:—

'While fully admitting the advantages which would attend the establishment of village records and accounts, the formation of a record-of-rights, and the introduction of a field survey, I cannot avoid the apprehension that the difficulties of carrying out these measures in those parts of Bengal in which village accounts and accountants, if they ever existed, have long ago entirely disappeared, even from tradition and remembrance, may prove greater than you anticipate. Your present proposal, however, merely contemplates an experimental commencement of the work in the Patna Division of the Province of Behar, where the need for it is, you think, most pressing, and the conditions least unfavourable; and to this I will make no objection.'

The survey was undertaken, and the results, in the opinion of the late Lieutenant-Governor, proved to be satisfactory. The Government of India concurred in Sir Steuart Bayley's view that it was desirable to extend the measure to other tracts. In reviewing the correspondence the Secretary of State observed that, even if the continuous maintenance of the village record could not be fully secured, still an accurate knowledge of existing facts would be of great advantage as affording a basis on which a better state of things might grow up under the Tenancy Act, and that a survey and record of rights ought to be attempted in other permanently settled tracts, where doubts prevailed as to existing tenures and rents. In September 1889 Sir Steuart Bayley after considering the question in all its bearings, decided to resume the Mozafferpur experimental survey-settlement proceedings, and asked the Government of India to accord sanction under the Tenancy Act to a survey and settlement of rights of the Patna Division. Having regard, however, to the partial failure in the Patna Division of the autumn and winter harvests of 1888-89, and to the serious injuries caused by the floods of 1889 to the autumn crops in Champarun, Mozufferpur and Durbhunga, he proposed to postpone the commencement of the work until the effects of these calamities of season had disappeared. The Government of India stated in reply that no final decision could be given authorizing the survey until the question of cost and the share which it was proposed to accept on the part of Government was accurately determined. The question reserved has been determined, and the whole subject has again been recently laid before the Government of India, and proposals have been submitted for carrying out the survey and settlement of the four districts of the Patna Division which lie north of the river Ganges.

The Government of Bengal clearly represented the difficulty of the work in prospect, and the fact that the scheme would not in the commencement commend itself favourably to the landed interests concerned. But Sir Charles Elliott expressed his complete concurrence with the views expressed by his predecessor that the advantages which would accrue to the people from the survey and settlement proceedings would outweigh the inconveniences and difficulties that might arise. His Honour entirely agrees with all that has been said during the course of the discussion as to the advantage and, indeed, the absolute necessity, of such a survey-settlement if administration is to be conducted with complete and accurate knowledge of economic facts, if famine is to be successfully combated when it comes, and if the relations of landlords and tenants are to be put on a secure and definite basis by the authoritative registration of areas held and rents fixed. He regards such a measure as a necessary corollary to the Permanent Settlement, and as the only way in which Government can give full effect to the principles laid down by the Bengal Tenancy Act as to the rights of the different classes of ryots, by creating an accurate record of those rights, and establishing a system for registering them in future.

The proposed operations have now been sanctioned by the Government of India. Arrangements are being matured for making a commencement of the work this season. The field-to-field survey will be taken up in November next year. The reasons why it is in contemplation to confine the survey and settlement to the district of North Behar are that the evils arising from the uncertainties of tenures and want of a record of rights have been felt there more than elsewhere, on account of the poverty and density of the population.

The objects of the cadastral survey and settlement of Behar, says the Resolution under notice, are to obtain an accurate record (1) of the area and situation of all villages and estates, of each tenure and of each ryot's holding within an estate, and (2) of the status of everyone who has rights in the land and of the rent paid by each ryot and tenure-holder. In other words, the intention is to carry out accurately what every zemindar is understood to attempt to carry out more or less accurately, but 'often fails in doing.'

On every estate zemindari accounts are kept up, which correspond in all but accuracy to the *khasra* and *khatian* of the settlement, and it is incredible that the zemindars should really wish not to have the opportunity of making these accounts correct. The Lieutenant-Governor has recently ascertained by personal enquiry the value which gentlemen of such experience as Messrs. Burrows, Thomson and Mylne of Beehea in Shahabad attach to the information collected in the cadastral survey which was effected for the canal-irrigated villages in that district. His Highness the Maharaja of Tipperah is so convinced of the utility of a cadastral survey that he has recently made application to the Government to have such a survey carried out in all his estates which lie in British territory. It is within the knowledge of the Court of Wards and of Government that, in the zemindaries which have come under the temporary management of the Court, there is generally an ignorance on the part of the late proprietors' officials of the rights and interests appertaining to the estate which is altogether incompatible with successful administration. In one important estate still under the Court whole mehals had been lost sight of and had paid nothing to the proprietors for many years: in other estates, where survey-settlements had to be undertaken, it came to light that managers were ignorant whether the estates were compact or scattered, or where the lands were situated. It is a fact also, of which zemindars must be fully cognizant, that purchasers of estates are often unable to find out what are the boundaries of the property they have bought, or to obtain any records showing who the ryots are, where their lands lie, or what their rents are. These are instances of the inconveniences and defects which would all be removed by a field-to-field survey and an accurate record of rights."

Referring to the gain to the ryot, His Honor says that the law has bestowed on him certain rights, and the Government has decided that it is the duty of the administration to provide him with the means of knowing precisely wherein they consist. This knowledge will benefit him in his dealings with his zemindar in any dispute as to the rent due to him, with indigo planters when he wishes to lease his fields to them, and with the Opium Department officers when he applies for an advance for growing opium on his land. With regard to the cost of the proceedings, the Government of Bengal has come to the conclusion that the entire charge cannot be safely taken at less than eight annas an acre, though it is hoped that there will be some reduction in the expenditure when the operations are undertaken on a wider scale than they have hitherto been carried out anywhere.

"Of this estimated cost of 8 annas an acre, the Government of India has accepted the charge of one-eighth of the total expenditure as respecting the cost of traverse surveys. Of the rest the Lieutenant Governor has decided that half, or three-and-a-half annas an acre, should be paid by the zemindars, and the other half divided among the subordinate interests. Thus a ryot holding an area of 3 or 4 acres may have to pay 10½ or 14 annas, an amount which certainly cannot be considered excessive, since it ensures him security in the possession of those rights which the Tenancy Act has declared to belong to him. The lowest charge for a copy of an extract from the *jamabundi* exceeds one rupee, and His Honour understands that cultivators often pay even larger sums for documents or considerations of much less real value than the extracts from the *khasras* and *khatians* will be to them. The zemindars who own larger properties will necessarily have larger total sums, but not proportionately larger charges to pay: but in return, though no general increase in the rents of ryots can be contemplated, they will reap some return from the discovery of concealed holdings, and of tenures in which a large increase of area has taken place without any corresponding rise in rent, which will go some way towards compensating them for the outlay entailed upon them. Moreover, the survey itself will, it has been calculated, take about five years for two parties at the rate of 2,500 square miles a year, so that the total sum payable by the general body of zemindars each year will be distributed over a considerable period. In some cases, no doubt, the aggregate amounts which will fall upon single zemindars in any one year will be large; and to meet this difficulty, the Government intends to facilitate payments by allowing them to be liquidated by instalments. Sir Charles Elliott has no doubt whatever that in the end the zemindars will find the results well worth the money they will have, under the law, to pay for the survey and settlement operations. He feels sure that the zemindars of the large estates in which such proceedings have recently been completed would agree in the view that they have received, by an accurate and a well-ordered rent-roll which has been generally accompanied by a slight increase in rents, good value for their expenditure. It is the Lieutenant-Governor's intention to have published shortly an account of what the surveys and records-of rights in those large estates have cost and the returns they have produced to the landlords, so that the zemindars of North Behar will be in a position to judge for themselves of the advantageous results which they may anticipate.

An assurance has been given that existing rights will in no way be touched.

We have also been assured that Government has not the remotest intention of undertaking the Survey in Bengal.

EDUCATION IN BENGAL.

SIR ALFRED CROFT'S Report on the Public Instruction in Bengal for 1890-91 has been reviewed by the Lieutenant-Governor in an interesting Resolution. The statistics of the year show that public institutions increased by 145 and their pupils diminished by 15,434; while private institutions decreased by 480 and their pupils fell by 7,546. Altogether, there was a loss of 335 institutions and 22,980 pupils during the past year. The fluctuations in the numbers attending higher education are not important, and their general tendency is to increase. There has been a temporary check in the development of private enterprise in this direction, but the increasing demand for higher education is testified to by the number of collegiate students, which came up last year to 5,232 the highest figure yet attained. Of the increase of 350 students receiving University education during the year, 173 were in the Government Colleges and 267 in the aided colleges; but the unaided institutions fell off by 90. Nearly half the colleges are in Calcutta and they have attracted nearly two-thirds of the whole number of students. Sir Charles Elliott notes the great variations in the ratio of success in the F. A., B. A., and M. A. Examinations and pronounces them very unsatisfactory. His Honor observes:—"If due to the inferiority of the candidates it is inevitable; if to changes in the teaching staff it is avoidable and should be avoided. The Lieutenant-Governor looks to the Director to see that the interests of the Professors are not considered before the interests of the students. If these variations are due to a difference in the standard and to changes in the examination, this swing of the pendulum is discouraging and injurious to the spread of education. Efforts should be made to secure uniformity of standard, and this can only be attained by continuity in the examining body." We commend these sensible observations to the Syndicate of the Calcutta University. The total expenditure upon collegiate education in Bengal containing a population of more than 70 millions was a little over 6½ lakhs of rupees, of which about 40 per cent. was borne by Provincial revenues.

Although there was an increase in the number of secondary schools for Native boys during the past year, the number of pupils attending them fell off by upwards of 2,000. The total expenditure on Secondary Education in 1890-91 was, in round numbers, 26¾ lakhs as compared with 26¼ lakhs in the previous year. The increase from private funds, we are told, is about eighteen times as great as that from public funds. The number of High schools has risen from 343 to 351. Of these nearly 300 are under private management, and their general efficiency, says the Government Resolution, "affords a proof that the gradual withdrawal of Government from the control of its Zillah schools can be effected without appreciable injury to education." But this policy of withdrawal cannot be carried out too carefully. It is only in the advanced districts that it can be adopted without injury to higher education. But in the backward parts of the country where private enterprise is not yet developed, the withdrawal of Government from the direct management of secondary schools will prove fatal to many of them. The framers of the Despatch of 1854 which the people of India look upon as their Educational Charter, no doubt, looked forward to the time when the Government should be able to withdraw from the direct management of higher schools and colleges; but they took particular care to lay down that this course must not be followed if there should be good reason to believe that its adoption would probably lead to the decay of a single institution. This injunction cannot be too carefully borne in mind in carrying out the policy of the gradual withdrawal of Government from the control of its Zillah schools.

At the last University Entrance Examination 1,710 boys passed as compared with 2,156 in 1890, the percentage of success being 42 instead of 50. Sir Charles Elliott rightly insists that care should be taken to make the tests applied in this examination as constant in quality as possible, so that the fluctuations may chiefly depend on the varying capacities of the candidates. In the Middle English and Middle Vernacular Scholarship Examinations the percentages of successful candidates rose considerably; but Sir Charles Elliott does not regard these fluctuations as satisfactory unless the tendency is continuously in an upward direction.

The figures relating to Primary Education for boys show a net gain of 52 primary schools, and a loss of 14,685 pupils. The losses are attributed to the floods, which affected three divisions, the consequent agricultural distress and epidemics. We observe that the proportion of boys actually at school compared with the number of boys of school-going age varies from 63 per cent. at Hughly to 10 and 7 per cent. respectively, in the districts of Mozafferpur and Darbhanga. The Director in his Report discusses the question of the proportion of the primary grant spent on stipends allowed to stipendiary schools to the amount spent on rewards to non-stipendiaries. Sir Charles Elliott points out that the Government policy is, broadly speaking, to replace stipends by payment-by-results; and that in spite of the much larger sum spent on each stipendiary school, the fact remains that many non-stipendiary schools are as efficient as the stipendiaries. His Honor is in favour of the mixed system of stipends with rewards, of the fixation of a minimum and a low maximum of rewards, and of the inclusion of the stipend in the reward ultimately adjudged. The Director is, accordingly, asked to furnish a statement next year showing district by district the sums spent in stipends and rewards, and the number of pupils passing the lower primary and standard examinations. The Lieutenant-Governor has accepted the Director's recommendation that no school which teaches to the middle standard should receive any assistance from the primary grant except with the permision of the Circle Inspector; and that such permission should be withheld unless he is satisfied that there was a sufficient staff to teach the lower and upper primary standards thoroughly, and unless pupils were regularly sent up for the corresponding examinations. His Honor desires that District Boards should adopt these principles, and declares that the Government is prepared to leave it to the Inspectors to decide in what cases the Middle schools which employ *gurus* might still, with regard to their financial condition and other considerations, be allowed to retain them.

Coming to Special Instruction, we notice that the number of training schools for teachers fell from 242 to 222 and the pupils from 1,993 to 1,958. Sir Charles Elliott considers that it is desirable that all masters in middle and upper primary schools should have passed through training schools and have received certificates of competency. In 1890-91, the numbers of the students in the several professions were as follows:—1025 in Law, 1184 in Medicine, 703 in Engineering, 753 in Arts and Industry, and 530 in other special schools. Having regard to the crowded condition of the profession of Law, Sir Charles Elliott does not consider it satisfactory that the Bengali youths throng to it in great number. His Honor notes with pleasure that there is a perceptible movement in all parts of the Province in favour of the establishment of industrial schools. This is "a movement which the Lieutenant-Governor desires heartily to encourage, as in his opinion, what the country most wants is a diversity of pursuits for its educated youths, and not an adherence to the beaten path of literary careers." Sir Charles Elliott looks to the Sibpur Engineering College and the Calcutta School of Arts as the chief institutions for imparting technical education in Bengal. "The former," His Honor remarks, "is the centre of instruction in mechanical and manufacturing industries; and artizans are trained to a high degree of skill in general processes, and a site is afforded for the development of various branches of special industry, for the supply of trained teachers to local technical schools, and for avanced instruction. The School of Arts occupies a similar position in the extensive field of artistic and decorative industry.* *

* The Lieutenant-Governor recognises that the idea of concentrating technical education at the Sibpur Engineering College and at the Calcutta School of Arts can only be carried out gradually, and that its fruits must be looked for in the next generation. He will endeavour to maintain these institutions on the highest possible scale of efficiency while encouraging the establishment by District Boards, and through other agencies, of local schools of technical instruction, wherever an effective demand for them may arise." This declaration of policy will be received with satisfaction throughout Bengal.

The statistics of Female Education show a gain of 85 schools and of 502 pupils. One young lady passed the B.A., and four F. A., examinations from the Bethune College. The number of European boys and girls under instruction in 1890-91 was 6,829, and the total cost of European education in Bengal was about 6¼ lakhs, of which the Government expenditure amounted to nearly 1¾ lakhs. The number of Mahomedan pupils slightly declined during the year under review. Sir Charles Elliott refers to the want of success of the Mahomedan pupils at the University and at the departmental examinations and justly remarks that they are disappointing, as they have occurred in spite of Government encouragement and pecuniary support. His Honor rightly holds that special favours to Mahomedans "should not extend to any great degree of inequality as compared with the Hindus, or fall into the extreme of accustoming the Mahomedans to look in themselves as so weak as to require protection from fair competition."

THE SUBORDINATE JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

THE proposals made by the Bengal Government for strengthening the subordinate judicial establishments in Bengal have been accepted both by the Government of India and the Secretary of State. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, after consultation with the High Court, proposed that 55 extra Munsifs, or 19 Munsifs in addition to the 36 temporary officers already employed, and 4 extra Subordinate Judges, or one in addition to the three now temporarily employed, should be brought on the permanent establishment. According to this scheme there will be 53, instead of 49, Subordinate Judges, and 290, instead of 235, Munsifs, on the permanent establishment. Of the Subordinate Judges there will be 7 of the 1st grade at Rs. 1000 per mensem, 16 of the 2nd grade at Rs. 800, and 30 at 600 per mensem. The grading sanctioned for the Munsifs is as follows:—

1st. grade on Rs. 400	...	75
2nd. ... ... „ 300	...	75
3rd. ... ... „ 250	...	75
4th. ... ... „ 200	...	65
		290

It is believed that the grading noted above is sufficiently liberal to secure an adequate flow of promotion.

The increase of permanent establishment would involve an additional expenditure of Rs. 22,822½ a month or Rs. 2,73,870 a year. It is estimated that the total net cost, during 1891-92, of giving effect to the scheme, will be Rs. 2,80,000. This amount will represent the net loss which will fall on the Provincial Revenues. We do not know how it is proposed to make good this loss. We have grave doubts as to whether the revenues of Bengal, without some extraneous help, will be able to bear the increased charge.

The question regarding the increase in the number of judicial officers has now been satisfactorily disposed of. There remains another question of equal importance which requires careful consideration. It is absolutely necessary to devise a scheme by which the work of the Judicial Staff could be economised. The present method of work should be so altered that the judicial officers might be able to dispose of more work than they can under the present system. It was suggested that increased powers should be granted to the Subordinate Judges and Munsifs. This system has certainly dis-

advantages, but it was thought that the advantages which would be derived from it would considerably outweigh any inconveniences which might arise from the measure. There might be occasional failures of justice, but it was pointed out that such a system would be calculated to make the administration of justice more speedy and less burdensome, both to the people and the Courts themselves. The Hon'ble Judges of the High Court have been consulted on this important subject, and they do not quite approve of the proposals.

The points which require consideration are whether the powers of certain Munsifs in some important districts, should be enhanced by extending their jurisdiction to suits not exceeding Rs. 2,000; (2) whether the summary jurisdiction of a large number of Munsifs sitting as Small Cause Court Judges up to suits exceeding Rs. 100 should be extended; (3) whether more Munsifs should be vested with powers up to the pecuniary limit of Rs. 50; and whether an experiment should be made (to be extended, if successful) of vesting several Munsifs with summary powers for the trial of suits for arrears of rent of small value under the Bengal Tenancy Act. The second and third questions have practically been decided. But there is not an unanimity of opinion with regard to the first and second questions.

The proposal to appoint, when necessary, a certain number of supernumerary officers has been entertained. These officers will be limited to two Subordinate Judges and six Munsifs. The officers so appointed will, we understand, be temporary and peripatetic, and will generally be sanctioned for employment in two or three specific districts where an Additional Court may be required for half or a third of the year, and where another whole-time officer is not wanted.

MUNICIPAL MORALITY.

UNDER shelter of clause (*b*) Section 204 of the Municipal Act, the Municipality could with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor acquire the whole of Calcutta on the pretext of widening the most insignificant lane; without such sanction it can acquire 100 ft. "on either side of the regular line" of an intended street, if the Commissioners consider it "expedient." They have considered it expedient to enforce this "legalised blackmailing" in connection with the Central Road, the project of which in fact was the *raison d'tre* of this remarkable provision. But the Municipality has not always thought fit to acquire all lands and buildings that it might, but has in some cases introduced the system of taking the requisite land free and letting go the surplus by exacting from the unfortunate owner one-third its value. Such an arrangement had been made with Babu Jagannath Khanna, from which it has since backed out as the acquisition of the whole block subsequently appeared more advantageous. Mr. Miller, the Official Assignee, representing the insolvent's estate, is determined not to tolerate it and he has filed a suit for specific performance of contract. A rule has been issued on the Corporation to show cause why it should be restrained from prosecuting further proceedings in connection with the acquisition of the land in question. Rather stiff correspondence passed between Mr. Miller and the Corporation and in one letter Mr. Miller criticised the action of the Corporation in taking from the insolvent free of cost the land required for the road and further making him pay a money contribution for that portion of his land which was not required for the road. This transaction, he wrote, at the first blush, looked very like legalised blackmailing, was opposed both to the spirit and to the intention of the legislature, and was indefensible on public grounds as an unnecessary and arbitrary interference with the rights of private property. He also threatened to refer the matter to the Government in order that it might have an opportunity of rightly appreciating the mode in which a legislative enactment intended for the public benefit would be wrested from its original purpose through a misconception of its scope and objects and made to observe with, however honest an intention, a distorted policy of commercial bargain and sale, and in that manner rendered oppressive and subversive of private rights. The Corporation in reply sent in a literary effusion in which it stated:—"The Commissioners are not concerned in establishing the morality of the principle of a betterment tax which finds partial recognition in clause (b) of Section 204 of Act II of 1888, under which section the marginal lands to a depth of 50 feet have been acquired for the new Central Road, but the Chairman observes that the ethical question is interestingly discussed in the May number and two subsequent numbers of the *Contemporary Review* for 1890 between Mr. John Rae and the Duke of Argyll."

Mr. Miller was not content to quietly bear the sting and wrote back:—

"I regret to note from your rather cynical statement that the morality of the question involved is a matter of unconcern to the Commissioners. I should prefer to think that you were expressing rather the individual views of your Chairman than those of the Commissioners generally. It would appear as if he were somewhat desirous of illustrating the truth of the old aphorism—an aphorism which has been discredited in recent years in all civilised communities, and which explains in rather epigrammatic language that the conscience of a Corporation is impervious to appeal because owning no body which is sensitive to physical punishment. I beg to thank your Chairman for his literary reference, but I may be pardoned for saying that I hardly think it necessary to consult an ephemeral controversy in a current review in order to fortify or displace the generally received conviction as to the inviolable sanctions which regulate or ought to regulate all honest and honourable dealings. In my letter to which you reply I did not so much complain of the existing law as enter a protest against its unintelligent misapplication and therefore a possible oppression and abuse of its machinery. Now the key-note to this rather dubious Nabothvineyard sort of land-hunger seems to be somewhat naively expressed in the Chairman's statement, *viz.*, that the insolvent's land was now probably worth some Rs. 20,000, so that for the sake of acquiring land which constituted private property and which the Municipalty had expressly contracted to exempt from acquisition, they seized upon a specious pretext, however legal in form they may have deemed it, for repudiating their undertaking and hastened on their acquisition of the land in question without making any attempt to ascertain whether the Official Assignee was prepared to pay the amount levied as part consideration for its exemption. In the first instance the Municipality entered into a most usurious contract to exempt certain land belonging to the insolvent which was not required for the purpose of the Central Road arranging for the payment of what, if I had not been describing the action of so honourable a body as the Calcutta Municipality, I should have almost been tempted to call a sort of legalised bribe or black-mailing for such exemption, and then, having so far profitted by the contract as to have accepted part payment in the shape of the free grant of land, they would seem to have become bitten with a still more usurious greed to increase the profit which had already been made though unearned at the expense of the insolvent, and so under an allegation of legal right they suddenly threw overboard the obligation which they had deliberately settled and ratified, and proceeded to possess themselves of the very property which had been specially and expressly exempted from acquistion. Had this very excessive zeal in the public service been perpetrated by a private individual I should have been strongly tempted to have defined it by the French word Eouche, but as I am dealing with the conduct of highly honourable Corporations and citizens and that of their responsible, or, perhaps I should say, irresponsible Chairman, it is more than probable that my judgment in the matter may be mistaken. At all events, I think it more respectful to them to refer their conduct undescribed to the superior arbitrament of the High Court and the Executive."

The intrinsic interest of the case and the lively character of the correspondence will make it keenly watched. The Municipality has in some cases proposed to acquire properties that are not *at all* required for the purposes of the Central Road, and we think the legality of their action should be tested.

RESUMPTION OPERATIONS IN SYLHET.

A RESOLUTION entitled "the Sylhet Jhum Regulation" was published in the *Gazette of India* in May last. The object of this Regulation is to provide for the commutation of the rights, if any, corresponding to the "Jhum, tippera, gurkati and panisikka" assets of certain permanently settled estates in the district of Sylhet. The exact nature of these rights is not known. This much has been ascertained that the assets mentioned above were derived from cultivation which shifted from year to year over immense areas. On account of these assets rights were naturally acquired over the areas where the forest produce was gathered. The Government of India wish now to extinguish these rights. Many proprietors will be utterly ruined by the proposed resumption operations. It is true that the Government of India propose to grant a nominal compensation for the extinguished rights. But such compensation will be a simple mockery. The basis of such compensation will be uncertain, and no amount of ingenuity will be able to determine the *actual* interest enjoyed by the present proprietor or his predecessors. Every trace of the rights as they were enjoyed at the time of settlement has been lost. Properties have changed hands, and large sums have been laid out in improvements, under a sense of perfect security. If the titles be now disputed, and the rights enjoyed from generation to generation be extinguished, the whole district will be turned upside down, the consequences of which will be most disastrous. So many years have elapsed from the time of the Permanent Settlement, and the rights then enjoyed have been crystalized in such a shape that it would be unwise and impolitic to disturb the present state of affairs. The law of Limitation and considerations of equity and justice ought to restrain the hands of Government. Complaints with regard to the resumption operations have reached us from many quarters, and we deem it right to draw the attention of Government to this matter. We hope the whole question will be reconsidered before any serious mischief is done.

Latest News and Notes.

AS we announced in our last issue, the Manipur prisoners arrived in Calcutta on Monday last. Their expected arrival had been kept a secret and only a few people present at the railway platform had a chance of catching a hasty glimpse. They are at present detained at the Alipur Jail pending the arrival of other prisoners and will embark for the Andamans on the 22nd instant and not the 20th as had been originally arranged.

LORD WENLOCK will visit Ganjam, where great scarcity prevails, before coming to Calcutta. An absurd report has been spread that his Lordship visits Burma. His Lordship left Madras on Friday last.

MR. E. W. Ormond, Barrister-at-Law, has been appointed to act temporarily as Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Legislative Department, in the place of Mr. Gordon Leith.

THE Port Commissioners will greatly ensure public safety by putting up some sort of notice on the Strand Bank Road opposite Ghoosery so that carriages may not drive along that portion of the road. The portion to its north is in good order as is that to the south, which makes the careless driver imagine that he can drive on in safety. He can do nothing of the sort as the intermediate portion has been all but washed away and the narrow stretch of roadway that stands, is positively dangerous for carriages to drive on.

THERE was a total eclipse of the moon this morning The first contact occurred at 4h. 44m. 25s., the beginning of the total eclipse at 5h. 48m. 42s., the middle of the eclipse at 6h. 28m. 12s., the end of the total eclipse at 7h. 9m. 42s., and the last contact at 8h. 11m. 59s.

ALLUDING to European affairs, Lord Salisbury declared at the Lord Mayor's Banquet that there was not a single speck on the political horizon menacing peace.

IT is officially announced that Mr. W. L. Jackson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, has been appointed Chief Secretary for Ireland. Sir John Gorst, Under-Secretary for India, replaces Mr. Jackson at the Treasury. No successor of Sir John has yet been appointed in the India Office though several names have been freely mentioned.

WE have to announce the death of Raja Manada Kant Roy of the Chanchra Raj family, Jessore. He was the third son of Raja Barada Kant Roy.

THE Maharaja Halkar of Indore will be one of our cold weather visitors.

IT has been decided to construct new offices in Calcutta for the Military, Legislative and Foreign Secretariats.

WE hear that Sir Charles Crosthwaite has declined the Presidentship of the Land-Indebtedness Commission. The question of filling the appointment will remain in abeyance until the Viceroy returns to Calcutta.

IN the (fourth) Shambazar rioting case at the Alipur Sessions Court, the Jury brought in an unanimous verdict of not guilty in regard to all the accused on Saturday last. The Judge disagreeing with the verdict deferred judgment until to-day.

OUR readers will be glad to learn that Babu Nobin Chand Bural, and his friends have promised to contribute Rs. 2,500 to the proposed "Leper Asylum" at Baidyanath.

AT a recent meeting of the General Committee of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation, the Chairman submitted a communication from the Municipal Engineer regarding the extension of the Municipal Office. He stated that it was decided to extend the building to the south towards the Municipal Market, and towards the west by taking up some one-storied house in Municipal Office Lane, and a small outlying portion of the premises No. 13, Chowringhi, which is unused. But the Administrator-General who had charge of the last-named property, insisted upon the whole of 13 Chowringhi Road being acquired, and demanded Rs. 63,000, as the value of it. It was, therefore, now suggested to abandon the proposal to take up any portion of 13 Chowringhi Road, and to utilise instead of the land towards the east on the other side of Hogg Street, the frontage of which with the sheds thereon belonged to the Corporation; and also to acquire a portion of the *busti* land at the back of it. It was resolved *(a)* that if the Engineer can give sufficient floor space and the cost of acquiring the premises, Nos. 4 and 5, Municipal Office Lane, instead of any portion of No. 13, Chowringhi Road, does not exceed Rs. 50,000, the extension of the Office be made in that direction; *(b)* that the consideration of the question regarding the acquisition of land on the east of Hogg Street stand over until the completion of the Office extension on the west of the street.

THE Committee, appointed by the Senate to consider the needs of the Calcutta University, and the best mode of providing for them, have submitted their report. The first need, to which they refer, is that of a building large enough to provide accommodation for all the candidates, who present themselves for examination in Calcutta. They have been informed that a suitable piece of land in the vicinity of the Senate House is available at a reasonable price, and they recommend that the University should purchase this land. They also recommend that until funds are available for the erection of a permanent building the examinations should be conducted in tents or temporary structures erected on this land. The Committee are of opinion that it is necessary for the University to appoint a Registrar, who shall devote his whole time to the work. In order to secure the services of a man of experience, they recommend that the pay should be that of an officer of the second grade in the Bengal Education Department, *i. e.*, Rs. 1,000, rising to Rs. 1,250 a month. In order to meet the extra expenditure they recommend that the fees for admission to the following examinations be raised :—

F. A. from ... ... R. 20 to Rs. 24.
B. A. from ... ... ,, 30 to ,, 36.
B. L. from ... ... ,, 30 to ,, 50.

The report is that of the majority and will be considered at a meeting of the Syndicate on Saturday the 21st instant. Three members have recorded minutes of dissent which also will be considered at the meeting. Mr. A. M. Bose agrees that the fees for the different examinations should be raised, that a whole-time Registrar should be appointed, and that steps should be taken to reduce printing charges; but he reserves his opinion on the question both of the pay of the Registrar and of the construction of an additional building. Mr. P. N. Ray thinks that, if funds were plentiful, a new building would doubtless be desirable; but that in the present condition of the finances of the University, it would have been better if careful inquiry were made whether savings are not possible in the remuneration of Examiners, which has increased of late. The proposed enhancement of examination fees is resisted by Dr. Lalmadhub Mukerjee, who thinks the question of a whole-time Registrar has been prematurely raised; and, while he concurs with the majority as to the necessity of additional accommodation, he is of opinion that a careful estimate of probable expenditure should have been prepared before the Committee proceeded to discuss the ways and means.

FILLIS' world-renowned Circus is again in Calcutta. It opens to-morrow night. We are sure it will maintain the reputation which it earned here last year.

HUDSON'S Surprise party at the Theatre Royal in Chowringhee has been drawing crowded houses every evening and has succeeded in keeping the Calcutta people fond of theatrical performances greatly amused and alive.

FROM Buxar Sir Charles Elliott went to Dihiri and from Dehiri to Saseram. On Sunday before last His Honor arrived at Arrah, where rich illuminations awaited His Honor. The Courts and offices were visited on Monday. The Municipal address was presented in the afternoon, which was followed by another address on behalf of the inhabitants of Shahabad. His Honor made a joint reply and said :—

He wished them to understand how sincerely he sympathized with their expression of fear that the partial failure of the rains in these districts must necessarily cause some considerable loss in the principal crop of the year, which would in turn cause a certain amount of distress aad suffering to the people, but he trusted that this suffering would not be as great as some of them seemed to anticipate. He was glad to be able to congratulate the inhabitants of Arrah on the existence in the locality of the noble canals from the Sone which irrigate about a quarter of their district. He had lately in his travels along the two main canals received great satisfaction in watching the unbroken line of flourishing fields on both sides of the district irrigated by these canals, and he felt sure that the zemindars, the ryots, and every one connected with these districts must feel the extreme debt of gratitude they owed to the Government which planned these canals, and to the irrigation officers whose work it was to look after the distribution of the waters of these canals; and he himself could testify to the great zeal, care, and enthusiasm which these officers devoted to the object of affording them the benefits to be derived from a liberal supply of water, and to spread its benefits as far as could be done. He felt sure that the one care of the canal officers was that the crops should not suffer. No doubt there would be many complaints against them, but the greater part of these complaints were things of the past. These shortcomings, he was glad to find, had been completely wiped away. With regard to the question of canal rates, he would only say that the rates for the *rabi* crop had lately been lowered, and were lower than in any part of Upper India. They were about a third of what was charged in the North-Western Provinces, and less than a third of the rates of the Punjab. He could not consider, when he considered also the difference between the crops on irrigated and unirrigated lands, the rate of one rupee four annas per biggah—a rate which in certain circumstances was reduced to fifteen annas—that any reasonable person could call it extensive.

REFERING to the drainage question His Honor said :—

It was difficult to treat that controversial question upon an occasion like the present. He had talked to the canal officers on the subject, and knew what their answer would be, but he did not know on what data the assertion in the address had been based, that the leakage from the canal and the lodging of the water had led to the prevalence of malaria and the increase of the death rate. Wherever the canal officers had found that any natural drainage course had been stopped, new drainage cuts had been constructed, and more than two lakhs of rupees had been spent in this way. Moreover, they must remember that they as representatives of the agricultural interests had themselves been the authors of the main evil they deprecated. They had turned 200,000 acres of *rabi* into *kharif*, and it followed of necessity that the lands remained much wetter, and if there was any real basis for their statements regarding the spread of fever and other diseases, then he would ask them to persuade their ryots to cultivate *rabi* and not *kharif*. At present every drop of canal water was devoted to *kharif*, but this cultivation would soon be over, and consequently the water would be available for the *rabi* crop. The first measure in their power to restore health was to give up this unfortunate propensity to rice cultivation, and if they desired to extract the full benefits of irrigation and to abolish fever, then they should cultivate less *kharif* and more *rabi*.

REGARDING the Municipal address His Honor observed, after some inevitable fault-finding :—

He had heard with great satisfaction that one of the zemindars of this district, the zemindar of Surajpura, intended to offer a handsome sum for carrying out this water-supply, and he was quite sure he was expressing their feelings in convey teeir thanks to this benevolent gentleman, and he wished also to thank him on the part of the Government for this generous offer. On behalf of Government he could offer the Municipality a loan on the easy terms on which Government granted these loans, and he heartily trusted no time would be lost fn carrying out these reforms and improvements, and that the result would be to root out cholera and diminish disease in this populous and wealthy town.

ON Tuesday the local distillery was inspected with great care in the presence of Messrs Risley and Gupta. Among other suggestions made by his Honor was one that the enforcement of a minimum strength spirit passed out was both irrational and unbusinesslike. If distillers were willing to pay a minimum rate of duty on spirits below the strength on which the duty is levied, it was neither in the interest of the Government nor the producer to interfere with them. At night a sumptuous dinner was given by the Maharaja of Dumraon and there were more illuminations and fire-works after which His Honor left for Bankipur *en route* for Sonepur. At Sonepur Lady Elliott joined His Honor. They have managed to make things lively there by some audacious robberies in her ladyship's camp—this inspite of the presence on the spot of all magisterial and Police officials of the District, as well as of the neighbouring districts. Many leading Behar Zemindars have gone there to meet His Honor and races and sports are being held in abundance which will run into this week also. H. H. the Maharaja of Cooch Behar is among others attending the historic fair this year.

THE morning papers simultaneously published on Monday a note on Kashmir affairs, of which the following is a copy :—

The Viceroy, during his stay in Kashmir, has had frequent interviews with His Highness the Maharaja and the members of the State Council, and has discussed the question of reinstating His Highness with some of the powers which he voluntarily surrendered in March 1889. His Excellency has given to the Maharaja assurances that the Government of India has never ceased to regard him as the legitimate ruler of the State, and has always been anxious to do all in its power to maintain the dignity of his position. During the last two and a half years in which the Council has been in existence it has initiated many important reforms, in the execution of which the Government of India has freely afforded to it the assistance of skilled officers—Mr. Lawrence, in connection with the Revenue Administration and Land Settlement, Colonel Neville Chamberlain in the organization of the Army and Mr. Logan in the revision of the financial system. The Maharaja has intimated to His Excellency the Viceroy his readiness to accept and continue the reforms already initiated by the Council, and has also voluntarily proposed to reduce the personal expenditure of himself and his family and his dependents which has hitherto been a heavy charge on the State.

In view of this guarantee and of the personal examination which His Excellency has made into the various affairs of the State the Government of India now propose as an experimental measure to revise the existing system of administration in the sense above indicated. It is understood that the State Council shall remain unchanged and that in the event of a difference of opinion arising between himself and the Council it shall be open to either party to refer the matter to the British Resident without previous consultation with whom no step of importance shall be taken. Under the new arrangement His Highness will become President of the State Council and Raja Amar Singh Vice-President. As a mark of the care and discretion with which Raja Amar Singh, as President of the Council has conducted the affairs of the State during the last two-and-a-half years, her Majesty, on the recommendation of the Viceroy, has approved of the Honour of Knight Commander of the Star of India being conferred upon him.

ALTHOUGH taking the shape of a paragraph in some, and embodied in leaders in others, the note must have emanated from the same source and bears an unmistakable official impress. This speaks of the good sense of the Government of India in so far it is laudably anxious to allay public alarm as soon as possible and takes the earliest possible opportunity of publishing the outlines of the finale of a policy that has been watched with keen interest for some time past. The views of the Government of India as to what is to be done in the future were made known to the Maharajah on Friday before last when His Highness had a long interview with the Viceroy and they were communicated to the Council on the following day. It will be perceived that the note deals with internal administrative matters only and is studiedly silent as to the military and frontier policy. The inferences about the occupation of Gilghit and so forth will still therefore be continued to be made. A correspondent of the *Englishman* telegraphs that the settlement, the particulars of which were apparently not known in Kashmir on Saturday before last and had not therefore been telegraphed afforded the greatest satisfaction to all concerned and to the people generally. We are afraid this can hardly be conceded from the Maharaja's point of view, though Raja Amar Singh and others may have cause for gratification. The reinstation of the Maharaja to powers is inconsistent with the continuance of the of the State Council. The theory of voluntary surrender must come to the Maharaja as a surprise.

SIR JOHN GROST, Under-Secretary for India, speaking at a meeting of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce on Saturday before last, said that the Government of India would neglect no financial opportunities of building railways and carrying out irrigation works. At the same time they were desirous of encouraging private enterprise by every legitimate means. Government were fully alive to the importance of extending the Indian Railway to the Chinese frontier, but the wildness of tribes on the frontier and the physical condition of the country in Burma were serious obstacles. The question of the adulteration of wheat and cotton was, he said, receiving the serious attention of the Home Government. The Indian Government, Sir John added, would be glad to abolish the tax on rice, and also the increased salt duty, but it was impossible to speak of a surplus with the present fluctuations in silver." Ministers must tickle the mercantile public on the eve of a general election and not much importance is to be attached to these promises of abolition or reduction of duty. But it is interesting to note that if need be, that is for influencing British public opinion, further revenue would be sacrificed without Government knowing how to meet the deficit honestly. The duty on rice that ought to be prohibitive as some little safe-guard against oft-recurring famines and scarcities, is light talked of, as if Government would not hesitate for a moment to give it up if called upon by importers. As regards salt, its duty would be capable of easy reduction backed by Liverpool demands and this must gladden the hearts of some economic reformers in India. The abolition of the Import duties was a free trade movement of high philanthophic motives and reductions in other quarters are promised or talked of that will promote free trade with a vengence, and that will bring relief by cheaping the price of salt though in the result more hateful taxes yet unknown may have to be paid.

THE Nagpur railway accident has counted three more victims. The Viceroy has conveyed to the sufferers and the families of those that have died, the sympathies and condolence of the Queen-Empress. The result of the enquiry shows that the Commander-in-Chief's train, being late, was proceeding at a high rate of speed when, on approaching Kapri, four miles on the south, at 6-20 A.M., the tire of the right front wheel of the leading engine broke owing to a covered flaw in the metal. This broke the rails and pushed the leading wheels off the rails. After running some hundreds of yard the wheels of the second engine and tender left the line. The tires of the leading engine were old and had been packed with iron washers, as is occasionally done in the case of replaced tires. From the evidence of the greaser of the leading engine, who escaped with a serious shaking, it appears that the driver did not inspect his wheels at the last stopping place. This does not exenorate the Company, though some people choose to draw different inferences.

IT is stated that the liabilities of the Berlin Bank which has failed amount to several million marks, while the assets are small.

WE much regret to record the death of Kaviraj Chunder Kissore Sen, which melancholy event took place on Sunday night before last. He was in indifferent health for the last two years, and travelled in many parts of the North-Western Provinces but to no effect. He was in the first rank of native physicians and commanded an extensive practice in Calcutta. His Ayurvedic School established in Colutollah Street, for the education of native youths, is an useful institution and deserves support.

A ST. PETERSBURG telegram says:—The Russian Government has resolved to construct forts on the Chinese and Persian frontiers. The *Novosti* says that the Russian movement in the Pamirs is a logical reply to British intrigues, and that the policy of Russia in Asia will be firmly maintained.

MR. TREVOR PLOWDEN has taken over charge of the Hyderabad Residency from Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick, who has left for England.

THE students and ex-students of the Medical College met in strong force on Thursday at the College Theatre to take leave of Dr. Chandra. Dr. Birch, the Principal of the College, presided and he opened with a tribute to the worthy professor, whose able services they had lately lost. An address was presented to Dr. Chandra on behalf of the students of the college, the address being handed to him in a valuable silver casket. Dr. Chandra acknowledged the address in feeling terms and concluded by wishing the college undiminished success and the students a prosperous and prominent career.

A HINDU lady belonging to a highly respectable family in the northern part of the town having died under suspicious circumstances, the Coroner is enquiring into the matter. It is said to be a case of suicide by opium-poisoning, but the relatives of the deceased lady allege otherwise. At all events there are said to be suspicions as to how the deceased came to have the opium, and the relatives of the deceased have engaged Counsel to watch the Coroner's inquest on their behalf and to make good their allegations. There ought to be a shifting enquiry.

WRITING on Wednesday, the 11th instant, the *Englishman* says:—The Masonic banquet at Benares took place yesterday, and not on the 3rd instant as was announced in our telegram of Monday last." This is strange reading. The editorial "We" has some times to anticipate matters to meet the exigencies of the Printer D.—when he is pestering for "copies" and matters may be set right "in proof." But it is unusual for telegraphic correspondents specially, thus to usurp what belongs not to them.

ADVERTISING boards are proposed to be erected in various parts of Calcutta by a business firm and the firm has been asked by the Corporation to make an offer. A contemporary sees objection to this on aesthetic grounds, as the beauty of the town will be destroyed by these hedious erections. The buildings are not safe either from vandalism inspite of repeated injunctions against "Sticking of bills", which wicked ingenuity sometimes turns into "stick no pills." But practically it matters not much one way or another. House-owners may be protected by the new proposal while the Corporation may make some little income by taxing the advertiser through the advertising agent.

Monte Cristo has given way to *Turned Up* and *Silver King* at the Corinthian Theatre. The second which is a farcical comedy, had a long run in the London Theatres and was well received by the Calcutta audience. Mr. Miln's powers in the *Silver King* were well demonstrated last season and it is therefore bound to be well received. Mr. Miln is an actor of superior talents who can suit himself to heavy as well as light parts and although he is not giving any Shakesperian treat this season there is no reason why educated native gentlemen should not accord Mr. Hamilton's dramatic venture larger patronage than they are doing. They are sure to enjoy the romantic representation of *Monte Cristo* and such other plays.

WE read in a Madras paper (not native) :—

Sergeant McNamara, of the Ordance Department wh for causing the death of a Native *chuckler* was indicted before the Madras High Court Sessions, firstly for culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and secondly, for causing grievous hurt, having been acquitted by the jury on the first count, and having, owing to the jury disagreeing on the second count, been retried on the latter count, has been found guilty on this count by a fresh jury. The case has excited considerable local interest at both trials. The defendant denied all knowledge of the deceased, and pleaded an *alibi*, which was supported by several other Sergeants of the same department and by his wife. In the new trial, the prosecution was strengthened by an additional witness, Conductor Smith, also of the same department, who gave such conclusive evidence against McNamara that counsel for the defence decided to call no witnesses.

McNamara has been sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment, which does not under the circumstances appear to be adequate. The trial, however, shows one thing of which our Anglo-Indian contemporaries will please take note. It is not natives alone that forswear themselves in the Courts of law for saying others, and sergeants in the army, we take it, are superior to the average native witness in the Courts. The Dum Dum murder case de nostrated something like what has been demonstrated in this case. The Chief Justice said it was his opinion that Mr. McNamara had deliberately perjured himself at the first trial, and added—"I also believe the friends of this man McNamara, sergeants, I do not say all of them, deliberately endeavoured to deceive the Court and jury regarding the *alibi*."

IN passing the sentence the Chief Justice addressed the prisoner thus :—

You have been convicted on the clearest evidence of grievously hurting an unfortunate *chuckler* who did no harm. He came to your compound to claim a small debt and instead of paying the debt, your wife abused him and you committed a very brutal and cowardly assault, beating him with your hands while he was on the ground, and kicking him where none but a coward would kick a mad. Your defence at the first trial was a wicked defence. You allowed your wife to go into the witness-box and commit unblushing perjury, you allowed your comrades in the Ordnance Lines to come in and endeavour to deceive the court and jury, and they partially succeeded. In the second trial, Conductor Smith gave evidence which, if any

more evidence was wanted, conclusively showed the violence you used. You and men in your position must be taught that you have no right to strike the lowest native in this country. He is just as much a subject of the Queen as you, and just as much entitled to the protection of the law. I have considered the sentence I am about to pass on you. It is a severe one, and will I hope be a lesson to others. The sentence is that you be rigorously imprisoned for three years."

Having regard to the circumstances of the case, we repeat we cannot admit that the sentence was adequate. It is enough perhaps that the authority of the law has been vindicated some way. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* suggests that some thing should be done for the family of the victim, a suggestion that we cordially approve.

THE occupation or evacuation of Egypt is the question of the hour in England at the present day, and various adverse influences are at work. Public men have already spoken out on the subject and English feeling is against evacuation at the present moment. Lord Salisbury was speaking at the Lord Mayor's Banquet which took place at the Guildhall on Monday and his Lordship touched upon this important theme. The Premier deprecated the unpatriotic utterances of former British Ministers, which he said, pained every patriot. England underwent great sacrifices to rescue Egypt from the condition into which she had fallen, and could not allow the results which are now being achieved to be destroyed, or allow Egypt to relapse into a state of anarchy and confusion dangerous to all her neighbours. He denied that England's object was to sever Egypt from Turkey, and declared that she desired to maintain existing treaties and firmans. She also desired to see Egypt strong enough to repel external attack and quell internal trouble, and earnestly hoped to reach that end within reasonable time, and if helped by others to reach it more quickly. Until the desired end was achieved, a foreign force, which must be British, must prevent Egypt from slipping back into the condition in which she would be exposed to barbarian attacks from without and intrigues from within. International arrangements, Lord Salisbury said, would be useless for this purpose, as Egypt was already overmuch fettered and hindered in this respect. He entreated foreign critics to remember that Englishmen are deeply interested in the solution of the Egyptian question, and are proud of the splendid success of their administrators and soldiers. In conclusion, the Premier said that whatever party was in power, England would never withdraw from the vigorous prosecution of the beneficent enterprise with which her pride and honour were connected.

MR. WHITE C. S., Director of Public Instruction in the N. W. Provinces, is about to retire and objection has been taken to the appointment of another Civilian to succeed him. It was at the time of Mr. White's selection for the office that, owing to a protest from Educational officers, the Government of India issued their orders under date 4th September 1881, in which they expressed their desire that the transfer of Professors of Colleges to be Inspectors of Schools (though, as a rule, objected to by the Education Commission) should be occasionally resorted to, so as "to give promising members of the teaching staff an opportunity of acquiring experience as inspectors, and thereby of gaining that degree of administrative experience which cannot but facilitate the proper performance of the duties of a Director of Public Instruction." Regarding the objection raised by some Local Governments, of the difficulty of always finding an officer fully qualified for the post from the ranks of the local Education Department, the Government of India ordered that "in order to obviate it as far as possible, the Governor-General in Council is of opinion that, failing a qualified officer in the local Service, the Educational Services of other Local Governments and Administrations should be deemed available for the selection of an officer as Director, before recourse is had to officers who do not belong to the Educational Department." In this state of things it is not probable that Mr. Risley will be appointed to succeed Sir Alfred, Croft in Bengal as some have been guessing, or that another Civillian will be appointed in the N. W. Provinces to succeed Mr. White.

FAULT having been found with the existing Bengali *almanacs*, a movement has been set on foot to improve them in the light of modern science. A meeting was held at the house of Maharaj Kumar Benoy Krishna yesterday to consider the whole question, when a number of astronomers, astrologers and learned Pandits from different parts of the country met together. A strong Committee has been app ointed to take the necessary steps.

THE troubles arising from the dearness of grain at Kurnool are not at an end yet, it seems. The arrangement effected by the divisional officer after the first riot does not appear to have worked satisfactorily, and a fresh outbreak occurred on the 8th instant. A Madras telegram, dated the 9th, states :—" Another grain riot yesterday is reported from Kurnool. The mob assembled with clubs and axes, but the attempts at loot were stopped by the divisional officer and police, who are inquiring into the previous riot. No arrests have been made yet. The District Magistrate has returned from circuit, and been inspecting the bazars. Up to yesterday noon quiet had not been restored at Kurnool. The merchants have telegraphed to the Government for military protection. A telegram to the *Madras Mail* says complete stoppage of grain supply from outside grain shops has now taken place." The effect of the rise is said to have been healthy so far as to step the increase of price. Intimation has, however, been received in Madras to the effect that the telegrams from the merchants of Kurnool, which have appeared in the newspapers, have been greatly exaggerated, and that the town is quiet. There has been a similar grain riot at Ajmere where the suffering is so great as to have necessitated a considerable increase of the relief work.

THE *Mirror* is hard to please, for chameleon-like it changes its hues and views and shape, too, every second. Baffled at one point it seeks out another, to be but baffled again. Its demands on the *Patriot* are far too numerous and exacting, which cannot necessarily be met having regard to 'existing engagements.' The *Patriot* must explain away misdoings, reconcile general questions of policy with administrative details and do a thousand other things in deference to the catechist's requirements. It cannot do so particularly as the whole thing proceeds upon the completely gratuitous assumption that the *Patriot*, the Press Association, and the British Indian Association have all and singular played themselves into the hands of "the shams and make-shifts of these iniquitous times," and that the *Mirror* alone survives to defend the community and the constitution. It ought not to require, one should have thought, very great statesmanship to perceive that Sir Charles Elliott may be anxious as matter of general policy to improve the public services by doing away with race distinction although His Honor may not in all cases get over traditional superstition in the subordinates. The general body of Zemindars or ryots, for the matter of that, may be perfectly in favour, again, although isolated cases may rightly or wrongly come in for condemnation. If Sir Charles Elliott claimed or was put forth as ideal of administrative excellence and fault could be found with him the *Mirror's* grievances would perhaps have some basis. But as it is, nothing of the kind is anywhere attempted and credit is but given where credit is due. This certainly does not preclude adverse criticism in case of necessity. Though but newly initiated, the *Mirror* is an adept in the art of bowing to official views that go perfectly against the country and the community, and its desultory scarps and comments actuated by motives that generosity does not care to characterise, will not much advance its pretensions to championship of popular rights any more than its pretensions to accurate and early information.

THE *Indian Daily News* attempts to minimise the atrocity of the railway outrages by putting forth a plea that Sahibs are not always the offenders, for Babus have been known to be guilty in some cases and that respectable ladies with reputation to lose are not always the victims. The Assansole case is said, after enquiry, to be one in point. This to our mind does not make the slightest difference, and if anything the Babu culprits ought to be much more severely punished than the Sahibs as besides being railway servants, they had additonial duties imposed upon them as fellow-countrymen where native females are considered. As regards the respectability of the passengers concerned, the lowliest public woman is as much entitled to protection as any body else and though her antecedents might go in mitigation of damages in a civil suit, the Criminal Court has no distinctions to draw, except perhaps by way of drawing inferences from her deposition. The possibility of false charges being laid, ought not to relax vigilance on the part of superior railway authorities or Government.

AS a result of the recent deliberations of the Telegraph Commission, if we may so call it, the Government contemplates to improve the system of deferred telegrams through the Government Telegraph Department. At present deferred messages are ordinarily delivered through the post office, but the experiment of delivering them through the more expeditious agency of messengers is to be tried. If the experiment succeeds, the deferred system will virtually develop into the ordinary system at eight annas a message, and the "Urgent" and "Ordinary" systems will be abolished. Cheapening of the rates and increased facilities will undoubtedly lead to better financial results, as past experiences show ; moreover in large towns like Calcutta intermural communications on easier terms than now exist might be promoted with advantage.

MRS. W. H. Smith, upon whom a Peerage of the United Kingdom has been conferred on her husband's death, assumes the title of Viscountess Hambledem. The Peerage on her demise devolves upon her son.

ACCORDING to a Madras telegram the Secretary of State has sanctioned the Hon. Mr. Garstin's scheme for appointing to large Taluks in each district a certain number of Magistrates

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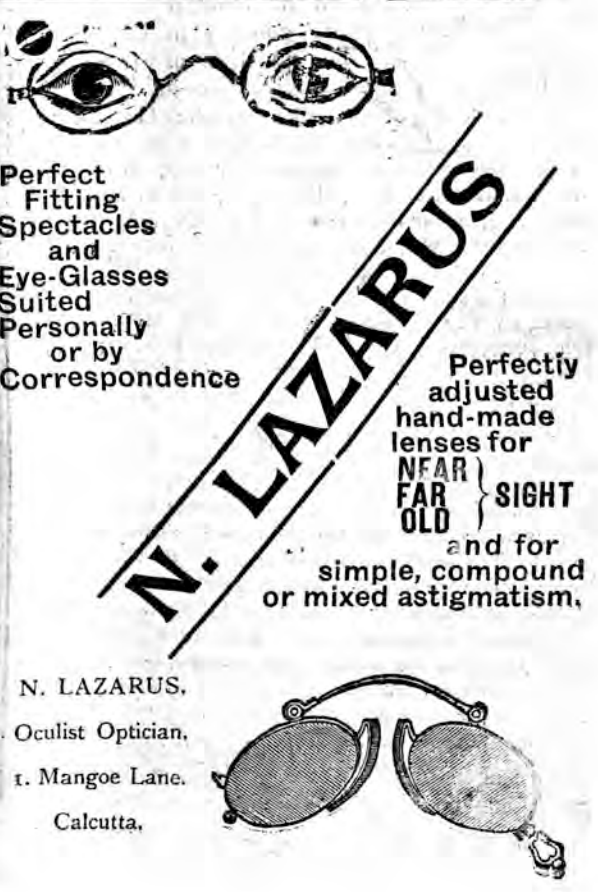
Perfect Fitting Spectacles and Eye-Glasses Suited Personally or by Correspondence
N. LAZARUS
Perfectly adjusted hand-made lenses for NEAR FAR OLD SIGHT and for simple, compound or mixed astigmatism.
N. LAZARUS,
Oculist Optician,
1. Mangoe Lane.
Calcutta.

who will devote their time exclusively to Magisterial work, so as to relieve Tahsildars of such work. The scheme provides for better paid Magistrates than those who now administer criminal justice.

THE sentences in the Shambazar rioting case were unduly severe, considering that the people were acting under a religious frenzy, however mistaken it might be. Example had to be made of some of the culprits no doubt, considering the gravity of the result; but lesser punishments might serve to uphold the dignity of the law. We are glad that the High Court has taken this view of the case in disposing of the recent appeal. On grounds of law Messrs. Justices Beverley and Amir Ali thought that the additional sentences passed upon seven of the accused under section 152 of the Indian Penal Code must be set aside and it was accordingly done. As regards the question of punishment generally the High Court was also of opinion that the sentences were unnecessarily severe. The judgment says:

The riot in question arose out of a belief—a mistaken belief no doubt—that an attempt was to be made that day to pull down a mosque that stood on the land for which Suresh Chander Dev had obtained a decree. The rioters in the first instance, at any rate, were all Mohamedans, and their religious enthusiasm was doubtless worked upon and excited by the harrangues by the Moulvie or Muezzin, Shaikh Ali Yar, who subsequently lost his life in the riot. It would appear that the first attack was made upon some dhangar coolies who, though really only spectators, had, it was believed, been brought to the spot for the purpose of demolishing the mosque. But at that time the police were on the spot, though some of them were in plain clothes, and the attack upon the dhangars seems to have been immediately followed by an attack on the police. The police were driven back and even after reinforcements arrived, they were again and again defeated. Ultimately the mob became so excited, and was so swelled by increasing numbers that it required nearly the entire police force of the town to put down the riot. Now whatever may have been the initial cause of the disturbance, however misguided and blinded by fanaticism the actors in it may have been, we think that we are bound to take these circumstances into consideration and while making allowances for the religious excitement under the rioters no doubt labouring to take care that the majesty of the law is sufficiently vindicated. There can be no doubt, we think, that whatever may have been the object with which the mob originally assembled, their offence was very grossly exaggerated by the unprovoked and sustained attack upon the duly constituted authorities. It is a far worse case, we think, than the riots which unhappily so frequently take place between the adherents of rival zemindars regarding the possession of land. In the fight that ensued several persons on both sides were severely injured, and more than one person was killed. We think, therefore, that the punishment ought to be such as to mark our sense of the gravity of the offence and the defiance of the authorities. At the same time as regards those who have merely been convicted of rioting and against whom no specific acts of violence have been proved, we think that some allowance may fairly be made for the state of religious fanaticism to which their feelings had been roused by the exhortations of there religious leaders; and that it is not necessary to exact the maximum penalty allowed by the law.

The sentences were accordingly reduced. The Criminal Bench, including a Mahomedan Judge has found and said that there was not the slightest justification for the riot even from a religious point of view, which, we trust, will satisfy those who found fault with us for censuring the ringleaders. The dignity of the law must be maintained at any cost, but law courts need and should not be vindictive. Some consideration was due to the misguided people who took part in the affray and we are glad the High Court has shown it. The Allahabad High Court did not do as much in the case of the Beneras rioters, although the provocation they received was much graver than at Shambazar.

THE cyclone at the Bay week before last was much more intense than was at first thought. Many incoming vessels had to put back to sea, while others that were giving out had to return to Diamond Harbour. Nothing has been heard of the Pilot vessel *Coleroom* for days, though the Port Commissioners' Steamer *Resolute*, the *Bissien* and the *Clive* made steady and diligent search after calm had been restored. Many Native crafts were lost and their crew and passengers were drowned. Of these it is impossible to make any estimate. The greatest disaster was that which befell the Indian Marineship *Enterprise* at Port Blair, on Monday the 2nd instant. Moored in the harbour and unable to get up steam in time she met the full force of the cyclone, and was dashed onto South Point Reef. All on board were lost save four lascars, one fireman, and one Native steward. The ship's complement, all-told, not including the private servants of the officers, was seventy-seven men. Out of these, six men were saved. The survivors tried to land exactly opposite the female jail, but were unable to attain their object owing to the heavy surf which was running, and there was every probability of their being drowned, seeing which a band of convict women of their own accord joined hands and formed a chain. They went into the water, stud ly stood the buffeting of the seas, and safely landed the six men. We trust that these women will meet with some substantial reward. Tremendous damage was done all over the settlement, No less than sixty convicts were killed, and two hundred injured by falling buildings. The Governwent House was unroofed as were also the bungalows of several of the officers. Two steam launches and nearly all the boats and lighters in the place were destroyed, and the paddy crops have been utterly ruined. The damage was great all along the Orissa coast.

DR. DE. JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES.—Dr. Henry Hanks, author of "Consumption its Treatment and Curability," writes —"The superior efficacy of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil over the Pale Cod Liver Oil has proved, in my experience, unequivocal. Patients who have persisted for several months in the use of the latter, with scarcely any perceptible improvement, have after a brief trial of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, acquired such fatness, and those distressing symptoms accampanying emaciation have so rapidly subsided, that I have been induced to confide in its reputed remedial powers, and consequently to advise its substitution for the Pale Cod Liver Oil." Benjamin Clarke, Esq., M. R. C. S. F. L, S., author of "Notes and Suggestions on Cod Liver Oil and its Uses," writes. "The effect of the Pale Oil on the circulation is so feebly marked as not to be perceptible; so that in some cases of extreme debility, the patient, from the slowness of its action, is in danger of sinking from exhaustion, or the disease, as in consumtion, may become incurable from protraction. My inference agrees with the remark that Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Oil effects a cure in half the time that the pale Oil does. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled half-pints, pints and quarts, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford Co., 210, Hign Holborn, London.

DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTIONS.—Pains in the stomach their treatment. Statistics show that 80 out of every 100 human beings suffer from the stomach, and as these maladies, with very rare exceptions, occasion bad temper and spleen, the sufferers are a source of annoy ance to their families and friends. It is rendering a veritable service to those attacked by dulness, pituites, risings, cramps in the stomuch, ect., ect., to draw their attention to the following:— The Parisian Academy of Medicine after numerous experiments has approved and highly recommended the use of Doctor Belloc's Charcoal for maladies of the stomach. See that you get Dr. Belloc's Charcoal Pastilles or Powder, as since Dr. Belloc invented medicinal Charcoal, many inferior imitations have been pressed upon the public.

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Correspondence.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

London, October 16, 1891.

MR. Gladstone and Mr. Morley's recent utterances as to the evacuation of Egypt have naturally been fastened upon by the Government supporters as indicating a policy, should the elections go in favour of the Gladstonian party which would be of the greatest danger to this country—especially as regards India. Telegrams from Egypt say that a great sensation has beeu caused by these speeches, that, as a result of them, the old retrograte Turkish Party is rejoicing at the prospect of the withdrawal of the army of occupation and their consequent reacquisition of Power. The probability of the success of Mr. Gladstone at the polls makes these declarations of his particularly important, and this may be seen by the fall of Egyptian Stocks after his speech of New Castle. Of course Mr. Gladstone does not want to hand over Egypt to "the anti-human specimens of humanity," as he called the Turks at the time of his great "Turkish atrocities" campaign in 1876, when he was for the famous "bag and baggage" policy; and he holds that Egypt can now stand alone upon the ways of reform laid down by the English administrators. Nor does he contemplate the possibility of any other power occupying the country in our place. Both these assumptions are strennously denied by his opponents. Their contention is that no conceivable condition made on paper without the presence of the army of occupation would prevent the speedy effacement of the most important reform that have been introduced; the feelation would be reduced to their former serfdom, the finances would sink back again into insolvency; confusion and revolutionary disturbance would follow, and it is doubtful how long the Khedive would be secure on the throne if he were abandoned by us. Thus the old position would be again restored which led to European intervention and the result of it, as described by Mr. Chamberlain in a powerful speech made during this week in Wales, would be that in six months from the return of Mr. Gladstone to power we should find ourselves, if his evacuation policy was carried out, in those European complications which so embarrassed and baffled the last Government of Mr. Gladstone. The "Times" I think expresses the view upon this subject, which may be said to be that taken by English people on general, in the following language. It says "ideas of naval and military strategy may differ, and may be modified by political and other changes; but as matters stand we maintain that we cannot suffer Egypt, lying as she does on the flank of our main highway to the East, either to be delivered over to anarchy—the certain result of bankruptcy and the uncheked sway of Mr. Gladstone's appreciative admirers the old retrograde Turkish party—or to pass under the dominating influence of any other European power. There is still reason to fear that the withdrawal of the British

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troops in the near future, would lead to one, or both, of these evils. We do not wish to see Egypt either as she was at the time of Arabi's rebellion or to allow her to become another Tunis." In pursuing this n cessary policy it further holds that Lord Salisbury h d been embarrarsed by Mr. Gladstones unwise utterances and gatuitous announcement in favour of immediate evacuation. Mr. Gladstone might have reserved for himself, more wisely, the liberly of reviewing the situation when, if ever, he became responsible for it. "He has now by his indiscreet and unfair pressure on Lord Salisbury committed himself to a positive statement of policy of which he will be constantly reminded whatever may be the position of Egypt and the possibilities of danger there. And thus he has done at a moment when the understanding between France and Russia whatever its limitations so far as the Central Powers are concerned will enable embarrassments to be created for English policy, to which even a Gladstonion Government could not shut its eyes."

One remark needs to be made about this. It is that Mr. Gladstone's language has been seized upon and made the very most of, and its effects exaggerated with the object, very dear to Mr. Gladstone's opponents, of raising up against him every species of prejudice which may be of service in preventing the return of a Gladstonean majority having a programme of domestic affairs (amongst which Home Rule is first and foremos) greatly dreaded by them.

Sir George Campbell on the liquor traffic in India.

Sir George Campbell has been criticising Mr. W. S. Caine's opinions of the liquor traffic of India, in a speech delivered to his constituents in Scotland. He prefaced his remarks by saying that he used to think Caine might do good but if the newspaper reports were correct he would be almost as strong as Lord Wenlock in saying that his statements were grossly and unjustifiately untrue. The system Mr. Caine denounced was a system, Sir George said, more civilized than the one which formerly prevailed in native times and was adopted by us from the earliest rule—be remembered it nearly forty years ago. This system, which in more recent times the Government had made honest attempts to in roduce, was that of a high fixed duly on the quantity manufactured. Mr. Caines statement that the liquor is manufactured and sold to natives by the Christian Government of India he described as absolutely untrue and unfounded, as also and the statement that there is only one publican in India the Government which is the monopolist distiller of the country. Sir George said this was no more true of the Indian than of the English Government; it neither distils nor sells, the liquor but only, taxes it and destilleries are guarded in England as in India to prevent smuggling. In reference to Mr. Caine's statement that "vendors are bound to take a certain quantity," Sir George said the only foundation for that was that to prevent the too indiscriminate granting of licenses which we see in England no license will be given unless the vendor undertakes to pay what is asort of high license duty,—a system which Sir George believes is the prop r one for dealing with the drink trade here. Is Ind a he admit some mistakes have been made. At onie ime there was in Bengal an unfortunate retrogression t

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from the still head system which Mr. Caine condemns to the monopoly system and the change was to be much condemned. But on the whole he (Sir George) said that there had been and is still an entirely honest endeavour on the part of the Indian Government to restrict the Fall of liquor and to raise the revenue by a high tax on a smaller quantity. It had done more than the Government of this country to keep down liquor. He was most anxious to take further measures to check the consumption of liquor both here and in India. "When you prohibit liquor to Christians you may prohibit it to Hindoos also. But while the system prevails in this country, and the peerage is filled by brewers and distillers, it is absurd and unjust to indulge in such trades against the Government of India."

Government Notification

Calcutta Gazette—*November* 11, 1891.

General.—Mr. Umesh Chunder Batabyal, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Beerbhum, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, with effect from the 3rd instant.

Mr. Mahamed Israil, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jehanabad, Hooghly, is allowed leave for two months and five days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

In modification of the order, dated the 30th October 1891, Mr. A. Earle, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the 24-Pergunnahs district.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. Lackersteen, First Battalion, Calcutta Volunteer Rifle Corps, is allowed leave of absence for six months, with effect from the 1st November 1891.

Mr. E. G. Drake-Brockman, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is allowed leave up to the 1st November 1891, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 30th September last.

Mr. N. D. Beatson Bell, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serajgunge, Pubna, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that sub-division.

The services of Mr. J. C. Lloyd, Sub-Deputy Collector, Palamow, Lohardugga, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Revenue Department of this Government for employment on settlement duty in Orissa.

Mr. F. J. Monahan, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted temporarily to the head-quarters station of the Burdwan district, on being relieved of his appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of that district.

Mr. B. G. Geidt, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore, is appointed to act temporarily as Magistrate and Collector of that district.

Babu Ram Sadan Bhuttacharjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Patuakhally sub-division of that district, with effect from the 22nd ultimo.

Moulvi Dedar Bakhsh, Tehsildar of Khoorda, in the district of Puree, is allowed leave up to the 31st December 1891, under article 273 (*a*) of Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. H. C. Williams, C.S., is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of the second grade.

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Law Lecturer of King's College London (J. H. Scaife, LL.B.), says (Jan., 1891): "Invaluable for examination purposes and as a sound training of the Memory." A Cambridge University) Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle, M.A.) was (Jan., 1890- "Much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "I derived great benefit for your lessons, though it at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentanons of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Pysician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, &c., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal S. C. "Excellent' travelling companion."—Capt J. B. Haye, R. N. "Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Sader-ud-din Khan. "Invaluable."—J. J. Francis, Q. B. "Does not involve much labour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct., 1887. "The audience (representative of the learned Professions) was most enthusiastic." *Glasgow Herald*, 5th March, 1891 Tremendously popular in Oxford."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th Feb., 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupsi Rs. 76; Ten pupils Rs. 19 each. Apply to F. Filk Williams, 71, Elliot Road, Calcutta; or to A LOISETTE, 3", New Oxford Street, London

Mr. Williams is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Burdwan, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. W. B. Oldham, or until further orders.

Mr. A. W. Stark, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is appointed to have temporary charge of the Rajmehal sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. E. F. Ainslie, or until further orders, with effect from the 25th ultimo.

Judicial.—The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Babu Shyama Mohan Chakravarti of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate of the Sudder Independent Bench in the district of Rungpore.

Mr. Robert Musgrave Cowley is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Independent Bench at Goalundo, in the district of Furreedpore, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Mr. A. Earle, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class, and with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the code of Criminal Procedure.

Mr. Earle is also vested with powers under section 110 and 133 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The Bench of Honorary Magistrates at Chandpore, in the district of Tipperah, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

Babu Karunamay Benerji, Munsif of Jessore, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge of Mymensingh, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Kally Charan Ghoshal, or until further ordors.

Babu Debendra Mohan Sen B. L. is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Jessore, to be ordinarily stationed at the Suddor station, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Karunmay Banerji, or until further orders.

Mr, Alan Mc Gavin, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Darjeeling, is vested with the powers of a Subordinate Judge and Small Cause Court Judge in that district. He is also vested with the powers of a Munsif within the Sudder sub-division of the district.

Mr. F. J. Monahan, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class, and with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Babu Hari Narayan Misra, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif, in the district of Chota Nagpur, to be ordinarily stationed at Chatra, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Uma Charan Kur, or until further orders.

Babu Jogendro Nath Haldar, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Midnapur, to be ordinarily stationed at Ghattal, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Benode Behary Mitter, or until further orders.

Babu Ambica Charan Mozumdar, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Sarun, to be ordinarily stationed at Chupra, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Kalipodo Mookerjee, or until further orders.

In supersession of the order dated the 27th ultimo, Babu Ram Lall Dass, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Chittagong, to be ordinarily stationed at Cox's Bazar, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Dandadhari Biswas, or until further orders, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Babu Poresh Nath Chatterjee, Munsif of Sitakund, in the district of Chittagong, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a Court up to the value of Rs. 50 within the local limits of the Sitakund Munsif, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Jagat Chander Das, or until further orders.

Babu Poresh Nath Chatterjee is also vested with the functions of a District Court under Act VII of 1889 within the local limits of his jurisdiction.

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NOTICE.

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NOTICE.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

The Commissioners of Calcutta will repay the Municipal six per cent Loan of 1871 on the 1st January 1892, the date when the Loan falls due. Debenture-holders are requested to surrender their Debentures at the Municipal Office on or before the 31st December 1891. Interest on the above Loan will be paid up to 31st December 1891, and will cease after that date.

JOHN COWIE,

22nd Oct. 1891. Secy. to the Corporation.

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold in the Registrar's Sale-room in the Court House on Saturday the 28th of November instant at 12 O'Clock Noon pursuant to an order made in Suit No. 378 of 1889 (Sreemutty Huri Priya Dassee versus Auckhoy Coomar Ghose) and dated 18th August 1891 the under mentioned Property :—

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The Abstract of Title and Conditions of Sale may be seen at the Office of the undersigned in the Court House or at the Office of Babu Mohiny Mohun Chatterjea, Attorney for the Plaintiff at No. 10 Old Post Office Street on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

M. M. CHATTERJI, Plaintiff's Attorney. } R. BELCHAMBERS, Receiver.

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Extracts.

THEOSOPHY.

(The *Times*, Monday, Oct. 12.)

THE fact that a large number of persons assembled on Friday in St. James's-hall for the purpose of hearing Mrs. Besant discourse upon "Theosophy," or, as we presume the word must be translated, upon Divine Wisdom, is surely a curious commentary upon modern claims to intellectual advancement. It was wittily said of a book which once attracted much notice—the "Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation"—that its publication served to reveal the existence of previously unsuspected strata of ignorance among the classes who were supposed to be educated; and, in like manner, the eagerness with which certain sections of the public join in the pursuit of anything which can excite in them the sensation of wonder may be held to prove that the weighty words in which, nearly forty years ago, Faraday called attention to the almost total absence of any provision for the education of the judgment, are as applicable now as they were to his contemporaries. It probably would not be too much to say that they are still more applicable, or, at least, that they are applicable to a larger proportion of persons; for, in the intervening time, the superficial forms of education have become more and more diffused without any serious attempt to supply the deficiency which Faraday indicated. More people read and marvel; but there is probably no corresponding increase in the number of those who read and think, or who, before they attempt the latter process, address themselves to the work of learning how to accomplish it in a profitable manner. And thus it happens that doctrines and speculations as old as human nature are again and again brought upon the stage, with no other alteration than a change of actors and of costume; and that, as often as they find exponents capable of felicitous expression, or calculated by their own personalities to arouse a feeling of curiosity, they attract audiences to whom their antiquity and their steriltty are alike unknown, and who accept words and phrases, which, for the most part, are destitute of intelligible meaning, as if they really conveyed appreciable additions, to the sum of contemporary knowledge. The great problems of life by which all men are daily confronted, such as the unequal distribution of property and other benefits, the origin of evil, and similar questions, have always led to the formation of guesses at truth by speculative philosophers, and these guesses, oftentimes accepted by disciples as revelations, have differed among themselves chiefly to this extent, that each one has been date-marked, so to speak, by the peculiar beliefs, or by the peculiar ignorance, of the time or of the place in which it has its origin. Moreover, the speculators have constantly been acquainted with what may be generically called the phenomena of mediumship, second sight, mesmerism, hypnotism, and the like; and on the basis of these phenomena they have often claimed, or have been credited with, the command of powers of a supernatural order. In a large number of cases, they have also practised the arts of the juggler, and have added what they knew to be deception; to those tricks of a different kind which, depending upon weakness of the nervous system in those on whom they were performed, the performers may often, in their ignorance, have regarded as being evidence of the possession by themselves of some special gifts or qualities not common to mankind. It is now admitted by all physilologists that no such interpretation can be correctly placed upon them.

Mrs. Besant's lecture was a much condensed account of the doctrines contained in Mr. Sinnett's book on "Esoteric Buddhism," and these again, although the author refers to "demonstration," and uses other words of kindred meaning, may mostly be described as opinions postulated for the purpose of explaining facts. Moreover, it may be said of the postulates, generally speaking, first, that they are conveyed in language which fails to express any precise or definite conception; and, secondly, that they are illustrations of the incapacity of the human imagination to create. They are mere re-combinations of ideas already familiar to dwellers upon the earth, although sometimes disguised under phraseology which is not only unusual, but also, being largely metaphorical, eludes definition when any attempt is made to ascertain its exact meaning. The word "plane," for example, is of precise geometrical significance; but when it is employed metaphorically, its meaning varies according to the taste and fancy of either the speaker or the hearer. As for the "individual monad" and its relations to the physical frame, and as for the migrations of the Ego in a spiral course through a small and select number of planets, all that can be said of the views expressed is that they are speculations, in support of or against which not one single shred of evidence can possibly be attainable; unless, indeed, we may infer that there would be something in the course of a prolonged and wandering existence, which, if disclosed to the disciples of any system of philosophy, would be found not to be in complete accordance with ordinary experience, and not to admit of expression in terms of that experience. The personal "demonstration" to which the so-called theosophist appeal seems to rest upon neither more nor less than the common fact that the constant dwelling upon, or repetition of, a given idea at last produces an implicit belief in it, so that the originators of spoken romance come in time to believe the narratives which they have frequently repeated, but which are not on that account rendered the more credible. The doctrine of the unattached Ego returning at last to some newly-born body which is adapted to its requirements, whether of strength or weakness, is not unlike that which was put forth, thirty years ago, by Fichte the younger, according to which the pre-existing soul becomes the formative agent of the frame into which it enters; a doctrine which its author supported by many arguments, most of which were swept away by the discovery of the facts of Evolution. On the whole, there can be no better description of Theosophy, as of the many philosophico-religious systems which have preceded it, than that which was given of the Scottish metaphysics of the early part of the century by Dr. Armstrong. It is the art, or rather one from of the art, of "talking grave nonsence on subjects beyond the reach of the human understanding."

We come next to the phenomena of mediumship, which have played a large part in the history of all forms of mysticism, and are attributable to peculiarities of the nervous system which are beginning to be fairly well understood by physiologists. These phenomena have been put forward by some teachers as constituting at least one foundation of their claim to be believed; while by others they have been kept somewhat in the background. In all cases, however, adepts have referred to them as evidences of the possession of exceptional powers by certain persons, who have been able, by reason of these powers, to mould others to their will. This explanation is now generally abandoned, and they are regarded as evidences only of exceptional weakness on the part of those who are moulded, not, as was once supposed, by the will of another, but purely by the influence of suggestions. The type of all these abnormal states is simply reverie, in which the occupation of the mind by a certain train of ideas shuts out all others. Reverie is a disturbed balance of power among the mental faculties, which, when they are all active and recipient, tend to check and to correct one another. A false impression received through the sense of hearing would ordinarily be corrected by the impressions received through sight and touch. In reverie, on the other hand, assuming that it was the sense of hearing which possessed for a time monopoly of the available nerve force, the other senses would be dormant, and the subject would believe whatever he was told. What in such a case might be called the working sense, moreover, probably by reason of its temporary monopoly of nerve force, is often unusually active, sensitive, that is, to impressions of so slight a kind that they would pass unperceived in ordinary circumstances. Such reverie, in many persons of unstable nervous system, can be artificially induced by the influence of suggestion; and, after a certain amount of practice, the response to suggestion becomes extremely rapid, and the effect extremely complete. The persons so affected have been able to perform feats, depending upon exaltation of a single sense, which would have been impossible to them in their natural condition; and, after a time, they or those who have exhibited them have usually had recourse to imposture to supplement the performance. It is not too much to say that every exhibition of this kind, when it has once surpassed the well-understood limits of the reactions of the nervous system on impressions received in states of artificial reverie, has become the show of a conjurer, and has been detected as such, as soon as it has been subjected to careful and skilful scrutiny. The Mahatmas of Theosophy are therefore well-advised in discouraging exhibitions of the wonders which they are said to be able to perform, but which would be little likely to bear the fierce light of investigation. The alleged feats of Indian jugglers, about which such strange tales have been related by travellers, are now well known to be definitely inferior to those of the best European performers; and the miracles which Mr. Sinnett attributes to certain Yogis or Fakirs are probably of the same order. And over all the words and deeds of Theosophists, and of kindred dreamers, there rests, as Faraday pointed out, the curse of absolute sterility. They have been prolific of empty speculations, but they have added nothing to the sum of human knowledge. "Why," as Faraday said, if their pretensions are well-founded, "should they not move a balance, and so give us the element of a new mechanical power? Why have they not added one metal to the fifty known to mankind, or one planet to the number daily increasing under the observant eye of the astronomer? Why have they not corrected one of the *mistakes* of the philosophers? Why did they not inform us of the possibility of photography, or, when that became known, why did they not favour us with some instructions for its improvement?" From the dawn of history the tricks have been the same, and no good or useful purpose has ever been served by them. Apollonius of Tyana is believed to have copied them from the Persian Magi; and what they were in the days of Appollonius, such they are still in the days of Mrs. Besant and her Mahatmas.

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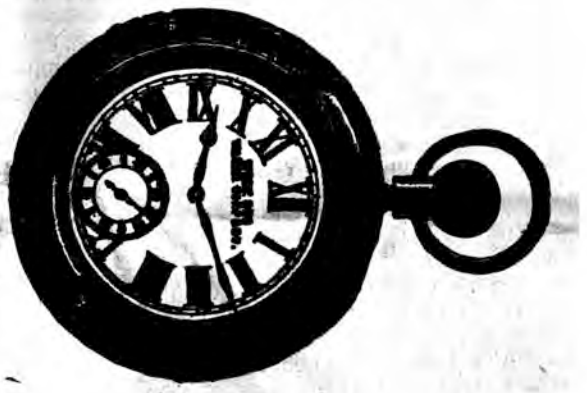

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